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PRESIDENT MEETS WITH EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARIANS

PY030123 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1528 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 2 May (TELAM) -- A European Parliament delegation today met with President Raul Alfonsin at the Olivos residence and later with Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli at Government House. This was reported to the press by a government official, who emphasized the cordial atmosphere of the two meetings during which international matters were discussed at length.

The following legislators participated in the meetings: Mario Pedini (Italian Christian Democratic Party), Carlos Barbarella (Italian Communist Party), Ernest Muller Hermann (German Christian Democratic Party), Hans Gawronski (Italian Liberal Party), Gabriel Kaspereit (French Gaullist Union), and Lietro Lezzi (Italian Socialist Party).

The meetings were held in the morning. The source said that Argentine sovereignty over the Malvinas, which the European Parliament will support during the negotiations, the EEC position regarding Argentina's foreign debt, the beef marketing problem, and other matters related to Argentine-European relations were discussed during the meetings.

The meeting with Troccoli, which was held in the Interior Ministry's coat of arms room located on the ground floor of Government House, focused on the favorable progress made in the field of human rights. Troccoli gave details about the laws approved and measures adopted to overcome the problems inherited by the government.

CHILEAN RADICALS MEET WITH ALFONSIN

PY030240 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Argentine President Raul Alfonsin this morning met with leaders of the Chilean Radical Party in Buenos Aires. The Argentine president held a more than 1/2-hour meeting with Enrique Silva Cimma, head of the Radical Party, and Carlos Gonzalez Marquez, secretary general of the same party.

According to Gonzalez Marquez, during the meeting President Alfonsin showed interest in learning about the Chilean political situation and the moves being made for a return to democracy.

The meeting, which was held at the Olivos presidential residence 16 km north of Buenos Aires, also covered subjects of interest to the Radical Civic Union, the Argentine people and Government, and the Chilean Radical Party.

CAPUTO GOES TO SPAIN TO PLAN ALFONSIN'S VISIT

PY022228 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 2 May 84

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Dante Caputo left this afternoon from Ezeiza Airport for Madrid, Spain, where he is going to make arrangements for the President Raul Alfonsin's visit to that country in June.

INTERIOR UNDER SECRETARY LEAVES FOR EL SALVADOR

PY021948 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1502 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 2 May (DYN) -- Interior Under Secretary Raul Galvan today left for El Salvador to attend the elections that are to take place Sunday in that Central American country, according to official reports. Galvan, who was invited by the Salvadoran Government, will attend the elections in order to "see for himself all the developments taking place during the elections," according to the decree authorizing his trip.

The official report adds that Galvan's presence at the Salvadoran elections "is in accordance with a decision by the national government that Argentina shall be present at the balloting in that brother country." Galvan will return to Argentina on 10 May.

TRIACA, UBALDINI ADDRESS LABOR DAY RALLY

PY021855 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2231 GMT 1 May 84

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 1 May (TELAM) -- General Confederation of Labor [CGT] Secretary General Jorge Triaca last night said that the CGT is willing to hold an overall dialogue provided the government allows free wage negotiations [liberalizacion del salario] and enforces collective bargaining agreements, because otherwise the dialogue becomes a trap for the workers.

For his part, CGT leader Saul Ubaldini demanded respect for the rights to just payments, professional training, protection of families, and defense of professional labor interests because if the workers do not defend their interests, nobody else will. Ubaldini also warned: We will not accept democracy with hunger.

Triaca and Ubaldini were the only two CGT leaders who delivered speeches at the CGT-organized rally held at the Atlanta soccer stadium last night to commemorate Labor Day.

The rally began at 1940 when the participants sang the national anthem. Then the occupants of the three stands, which were almost full, repeatedly sang: "Argentina, Argentina, you see, you see, there is only one CGT." Then a minute of silence was observed for the soldiers who died for the country.

Triaca delivered the first speech and began by saying: Tonight we commemorate the past and recent history of the labor movement, whose only choice is between liberation or dependence. He recalled that the movement's struggles are aimed at achieving the Justicialist revolution proposed by Lieutenant General Peron, noting that the CGT continuously and permanently opposes the plots and compromises of the Labor Ministry.

He described the Argentine unions as pluralist and democratic and he later warned: We will not tolerate the government continuing to restrict wages and using the foreign debt as an excuse. He stressed that "we are willing to hold an overall dialogue," noting, however, that the government must first allow free wage negotiations and enforce collective bargaining agreements, because otherwise the dialogue becomes a trap for the workers.

Triaca concluded his speech by inviting the participants to shout the slogan: "See that our people do not change their minds; follow the banners of Evita and Peron."

Ubaldini, who was the last to speak, thanked union organizations for their attendance at such a worthy ceremony to commemorate Labor Day. He added: We have pledged to fight against the military dictatorship and in favor of a solid and participative democracy, and we will not relinquish our objectives.

"We demand the right to just payments, professional training, protection of our families, and defense of our professional rights, because if we workers do not defend our rights, nobody else will," Ubaldini said. He later noted the need for the participation of youths and women, and he asked the participants for applause for their fellow worker Alicia Moreau de Justo, who "requested our release when we were detained." At the end of the speech, when he was very hoarse, he said that "we will not accept a democracy with hunger." His words were drowned by the shouts of the participants: "We shall return, we shall return."

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT TO PURCHASE SOVIET MACHINERY

PY030119 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1312 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] La Rioja, 2 May (TELAM) -- Rodolfo Chain, president of the La Rioja Provincial Highway Directorate, yesterday announced that an agreement for an amount totaling almost $6 million has been signed with the Soviet (Proinge) Export company for the purchase of 30 units of road-building machinery to replace old machinery. During a press conference the provincial official said that the agreement must be authorized by the Buy National Products Office [Compre Nacional], the national industry and mining direcorate and the Interior Ministry's economic relations department and later approved by the government and congress of La Rioja.

Asked why they had chosen to buy equipment from the USSR, Chain pointed out that the USSR had not been chosen but said that the opportunity arose because there is an agreement with the USSR whereby Argentina sells 4 millions tons of grain to it in return for reciprocal purchases by Argentina. For this reason, Argentina decided to buy heavy machinery for YPF [Government Oil Deposits] and the national and provincial highway directorates.

Chain said that the deal is advantageous for La Rioja because the directorate will purchase machinery at a relatively low cost, considering that they are approximately 50 percent cheaper than those produced by the Western world. Chain said that the La Rioja treasury will not be affected by the purchase because it will be made with a 6-year nonreimbursable loan with a 2-year grace period granted by the Interior Ministry. "The loan will be a kind of contribution by the national treasury to the La Rioja treasury," he said. The purchase, the agreement for which was signed on 24 April, was made directly through the reciprocal treaty between the two countries and excludes requesting competitive bids.

In connection with the Argentine-Soviet commercial agreement, Chain disclosed that Trade Secretary Ricardo Campero will travel to Moscow in the next few days to take a list of purchases for approximately $40 million which includes heavy road-building machinery for six provinces including La Rioja.

The president of the La Rioja highway directorate concluded by stating: The commercial balance is favorable to Argentina by $1.5 million and we will now make purchases worth $40 million. This shows that the commercial balance is still favorable to Argentina and that the USSR by no means compels us to buy Soviet products.

FURTHER ON LIFTING OF EMERGENCY MEASURES

PY021750 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 1600 GMT 2 May 84

[Relay from Brasilia by correspondent Carlos Rodriguez]

[Text] President Figueiredo has signed a decree suspending as of tomorrow the emergency measures that have been in force in Brasilia since 18 April. The emergency measures, which were decreed for a 60-day period for protecting, according to the government, the national congress from pressures during the vote on the Dante de Oliveira amendment, were supposed to remain in force until 17 June.

Figueiredo's decison was announced in Brasilia by PDS [Social Democratic Party] President Jose Sarney. Sarney said this decision seeks to facilitate an understanding between the government and the opposition concerning the amendment for holding presidential elections in 1988, an amendment that President Figueiredo submitted to congress in April and that is now being studied by the congressmen. Sarney said that the suspension of the emergency measures had already been decided a few days ago, but that it was not formalized until now.

Over the past few days the opposition leaders have stressed the need for the government to suspend the emergency measures in Brasilia and its neighboring municipalities in order to start talks with the opposition.

REACTIONS TO FIGUEIREDO'S TALKS PROPOSAL

PY021900 [Editorial Report] Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese at 0230 GMT on 2 May carried reactions to the proposal made by President Figueiredo to hold talks between the government and the opposition.

The announcer said that while Ulysses Guimaraes has declined to hold talks with Social Democratic Party, PDS, President Jose Sarney, Minas Gerais Governor Tancredo Neves, also a PMDB, Brazilian Democratic Movement Party, member, is approaching the government with "mellow" words, and that while Guimaraes is taking a clear-cut stand, Neves is adopting a wait-and-see attitude.

Reporter Carlos Rodrigues reported from Brasilia that "a congressional mixed commission will be installed on 2 May to discuss and make recommendations on the government's amendment that proposes the reestablishment of direct elections only in 1988." Rodrigues went on to say that "the PDS pro-direct-elections faction and the opposition met in congress on 1 May to propose an amendment to Figueiredo's proposal. Basically, the pro-direct-elections group proposes that direct presidential elections be held in 1984 in two rounds; that direct mayoral elections be held for state capitals and municipalities regarded as security areas; that a constitutent assembly be called in 1986 to draft a new constitution; that no more decree-laws be issued; that the creation of new parties be facilitated; that party membership should not be mandatory; and that congress should be the first stage of the adoption of emergency measures or a state of emergency is to be considered."

Reporter (Jose Modesto Marques) then quoted PT Workers Party, PT, President Luiz Inacio da Silva as saying that "Figueiredo does not really want to negotiate, what he wants is that we accept his amendments."

Reporter (Milton Flores) quoted Sole Central Organization of Workers [CUT] Coordinator Jair Menegelli as saying that "Figueiredo should strive to reach an understanding with the nation, an understanding that allows for the election of a president of the Republic who enjoys the confidence of the nation, because this is the only way to overcome our crisis."

The announcer added that (Joaquim do Campos Andrade), president of Sao Paulo's metalworkers union, sets as a condition for holding negotiations that the emergency state be lifted, something that would openly demonstrate the government's willingness to negotiate.

Reporter (Pedro Luis Ronco) quoted a Santos auxiliary bishop as saying that "the workers should maintain an unbending unity and they should not allow sectarian interests or ideological stands to drive a wedge among workers, pitting them against one another, something that would make the present struggle to achieve justice less effective."

GENERAL CRUZ ISSUES COMMUNIQUE, DENIES REPORTS

PY010351 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 2150 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Brasilia -- In the seventh communique issued since he resumed his post as executor of the emergency measures, General Newton Cruz today denied press reports stating that the police had hurled tear-gas bombs into a first and second grade school during a student demonstration last Friday. In the communique the Planalto Palace military commander asserted that the students may hold assemblies within the university premises so long as they request permission, but warned that those responsible will be punished should there be any riots.

POPULAR PERCENTAGES IN AMENDMENT VOTE NOTED

PY271735 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 1600 GMT 27 Apr 84

[Text] The Senate's data bank has just released some interesting information.

The 298 deputies who voted in favor of direct elections now for president, received a total of 19,205,540 votes in the 1982 general elections. The 65 deputies who voted against the amendment received barely 3,631,614 votes in the same general elections. The deputies who failed to turn up to do their duty, that is to vote, obtained 6,835,321 votes. Therefore, the deputies who voted in favor of the Dante de Oliveira amendment represent an electorate of more than 19 million people, against the 9 million persons who voted for those who opposed the amendment.

Since a large majority of the population favored direct elections now, it is predictable that many of the deputies who voted against the amendment have ruined their political future.

PRESIDENT TO MEET PARAGUAYAN COUNTERPART

PY010347 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Excerpt] President Joao Figueiredo will visit two Minas Gerais cities, Araguari and Uberaba, on Thursday, 3 May.

He will dedicate the Araguari (Celso Coelho) railroad track stretch and the 50th national Zebu cattle fair. President Figueiredo will meet Paraguayan President Alfredo Stroessner in Uberaba. The Paraguayan president has been invited by the sponsors of the fair.

U.S. BOAT SEIZED, REPORTEDLY TAKEN TO BELEM

PY030258 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 0240 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] The Brazilian Navy has machinegunned and seized another U.S. ship that was illegally fishing off the Amapa coast. The ship, the Sea Horse, which had a Brazilian crew, attempted to flee but was machinegunned by the corvette Angostura, which is now taking it to Belem. This is the second U.S. ship caught fishing in Brazilian waters in the last 2 weeks.

ITALIAN DEFENSE MINISTER ARRIVES ON VISIT

PY021850 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1621 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 2 May (EFE) -- Italian Defense Minister Giovanni Spadolini arrived in Rio de Janeiro today on a 4-day official visit.

Spadolini will be received in Brasilia by Brazilian Navy Minister Admiral Karam, and he will also meet the Brazilian president, General Joao Figueiredo, and Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro.

During his stay in Brazil, Spadolini will hold several meetings with senators and congressmen, Aeronautics Minister Delio Jardim de Mattos, and the deputy Army minister.

Spadolini will also be received by the Italian consul, and he will visit the War College and the Brazilian Aeronautics Company (EMBRAER), among other places.

Brazil and Italy are jointly manufacturing the first prototype of the "AMX" subsonic fighter airplane which, in Spadolini's opinion, will be well accepted on the world market.

DEL VALLE ON TALKS WITH ALADI FOREIGN MINISTERS

PY030233 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 2 May 84

[Excerpt] Chilean Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle has stated that he hoped that the mediation process will be over by July this year or as soon as possible. He added that this desire is shared by his Argentine counterpart Dante Caputo. The two ministers agreed on this subject during the second meeting of Latin American foreign ministers held within the ALADI framework in Montevideo, Uruguay.

[Begin Del Valle recording] Foreign Minister Caputo talked to me about hastening the work as much as possible to finish up by the end of July or at least as soon as possible. My statement certainly expressed the same desire and I conveyed the concern of the Chilean Government regarding the delay which the negotiations were experiencing. [end recording]

Del Valle added that he also met with his Bolivian counterpart and described these talks as very friendly. He recalled that the Chilean Government abides by the OAS guidelines in handling Bolivia's claim for a sea outlet. He indicated that in any case the meeting in Bogota, Colombia, designed to seek rapprochement between the two nations, will be held.

Beagle Mediation To End in July

PY030051 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0017 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 2 May (EFE) -- Chilean Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle today announced that there will be an end to the southern litigation with Argentina and to the papal mediation toward the end of July through the signing of a treaty between the two countries.

Radio Chilena has reported that the foreign minister stated that in the recent meeting that he had with his Argentine colleague, Dante Caputo, in Montevideo, both of them had committed themselves to a successful conclusion of the mediation between the two countries as soon as possible.

The foreign minister added that the Argentine foreign minister spoke about accelerating the mediation process so that it will conclude toward the end of July with the signing of a treaty.

FORMER BANK PRESIDENT NAMED U.S. ENVOY

PY291940 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 28 Apr 84

[Summary] The Chilean Foreign Ministry has reported that Hernan Felipe Errazuriz has been appointed the new Chilean ambassador to the United States. The U.S. Government has approved the appointment. Errazuriz, formerly president of the Chilean Central Bank, will replace Enrique Valenzuela, who was ambassador until the end of last year.

PERUVIAN DEPUTY MINISTER ARRIVES FOR MEETING

PY021405 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Jose Carlos Mariategui Arellanos, the Peruvian deputy foreign minister, is at present in Chile heading the Peruvian delegation to the joint Chilean-Peruvian cooperation commission meeting. The commission will meet here from 2 May until (?12) May.

Ambassador Mariategui, who formerly was Peruvian ambassador to Chile, was welcomed at the international airport by General Sergio Covarrubias, the deputy foreign minister; other Foreign Ministry officials; and members of the Peruvian Embassy in Santiago.

INTERIOR MINISTER JARPA UNDERGOES MINOR SURGERY

PY261322 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 15 Apr 84 p C 3

[Text] Yesterday morning Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa underwent minor surgery on his foot at the Military Hospital. This information was made public by Minister Secretary General of Government Alfonso Marquez de la Plata, who will act as interior minister until Minister Jarpa can return. The government decree has already been signed.

Marquez de la Plata said that the period for recovery from that surgery should be a week, adding, "it was a small wound that would not heal on his foot; physicians drained and cleaned the wound; it is nothing to worry about." On medical orders, Minister Jarpa has to keep his foot immobilized.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON LABOR DAY INCIDENTS

Seguel Speaks at Rally

PY021408 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0107 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Santiago, 1 May (EFE) -- Union leader Rodolfo Seguel said on Labor Day that the National Workers Command "will give top priority to the formation of a board for social conciliation." In his speech delivered today before thousands of workers in the O'Higgins Park, Seguel said that "all sectors of the nation without exception should participate in this board." He said: "The objectives of the board for social conciliation will be the discussion of a social mobilization plan, the fixing of common objectives in the struggle, and the implementation of joint actions."

Seguel also called on "all political forces to make a joint generous effort to put an end to the current regime." During his speech Seguel demanded, among other things, "democratic reconstruction," "a new government for Chile," "a constituent assembly," "a salary readjustment of 100 percent according to the cost of living from August 1981, a minimum salary of 12,000 pesos ($120) (minimum salary is currently $65), the immediate dissolution of the National Intelligence Center (CNI), and the end of press censorship." Addressing General Pinochet he said: "General, we will continue the struggle until you leave the government."

At the conclusion of the rally there were confrontations with Carabineros, and over 100 people were hurt and more than 120 arrested.

Minister, Secretary on Vandalism

PY030328 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 2 May 84

[Excerpts] Minister Alfonso Marquez de la Plata has said that those who have engaged in vandalous actions will be duly punished, meaning the events which took place at O'Higgins Park on 1 May. He said that the persons responsible for the destruction wreaked in the park will be sued.

[Begin Marquez recording] Everyone is aware of what has happened. The government allowed the rally because it was intended to commemorate the day of the workers but from what I have seen in the photographs and television clips it turned into a meeting of the MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left] , the Socialist Party, the MAPU [Single Popular Action Movement], and a number of other groups [words indistinct] who unfortunately destroyed a considerable amount of public and private property. Lawsuits are being currently filed against those guilty of this vandalism because as you well know the natior cannot allow the decorations and lighting fixtures of the city to be destroyed by vandals. Therefore all those responsible will be duly punished. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Luis Simon Figueroa, under secretary of the interior, said that the Carabineros injured during yesterday's incidents are recovering. He explained that 66 persons were actually arrested and placed at the disposal of police courts. He indicated that those who damaged public property will plead their defense before these courts and then it is up to the judge.

Youth Shot on 1 May Dies

PY021950 Paris AFP in Spanish 1324 GMT 2 May 84

[Excerpt] Santiago, 2 May (AFP) -- A 15-year-old youth who was shot in Santiago in an incident between civilians and policemen today died at the hospital where he was receiving medical treatment, hospital sources said. Three bullets hit the youth on Tuesday night when Carabineros dispersed a group who were playing soccer in a small field in Nunoa district in southeastern Santiago. Relatives of the youth reported that there were no distrubances in the neighborhood at the time when the police action took place.

TWO PERSONS INJURED IN BOMB ATTACK IN SANTIAGO

PY021905 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1535 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Santiago, 2 May (EFE) -- Two persons were injured by a bomb that went off at a bus station in the Maipu district in western Santiago. According to initial reports, the blast took place today at 0930 (1330 GMT) in a bus station located on Ramon Friere Street in the Maipu district.

Federico Palma and Jorge Cantillana, employees of the bus line, were seriously injured and were taken to a hospital in the Maipu district.

CITIZENS DEMONSTRATE AGAINST COURTS-MARTIAL

PY010359 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Excerpt] This morning several tens of people, most of them youngsters, held a demonstration to protest the courts-martial. The demonstration was held on the corner of 5 Abril and La Reja Avenues.

Inhabitants of Villa Francia, (Jose Calchan), Vista Hermosa, Robert Kennedy, and Las Rejas met at 1100 this morning at the aforementioned site to voice their protest to a summons for courts-martial. The demonstrators displayed a banner which read "For the right to live, no to the courts-martial" as they publicly voiced their disagreement.

The acts of protest against the courts-martial started on Friday.

PROSECUTOR ASKS DEATH SENTENCE FOR 1980 ATTACK

PY251609 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2100 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Santiago, 24 Apr (EFE) — Today Chilean military prosecutor Colonel Juan Michaelsen requested the death sentence for five people allegedly responsible for the attack that took place on 28 April 1980 and which resulted in the death of Carabinero Heriberto Novoa. The persons being tried under this case and for whom the death sentence has been requested are: Fernando Reveco Soto, Victor Zuniga Arellano, Fermin Montes, Carlos Garcia Herrera, and Pedro Burgos Ibanez.

The death sentence for Zuniga and Garcia Herrera had already been requested for the holding up of three banks and the murder of two other Carabineros on 30 December 1980. For the same reason, the death sentence has been requested for Gonzalo Gonzalez Quiroga, Rodolfo Rodriguez Moraga, Nelson Ariel Cartagena, Juan Cajardo Ortis, and Miriam Ortega.

Moreover, the trial by a military court of Jorge Palma Donoso, Hugo Marchant Moya, and Carlos Araneda is still pending. These persons are charged with the attack which resulted in the death of General Carol Urzua and his two bodyguards on 30 August 1983.

CAUCE MAGAZINE REAPPEARS, SLAMS OPUS DEI

PY030023 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1724 GMT 1 May 84

[Text] Santiago, 1 May (EFE) -- After submitting its originals to the officials in charge of censorship, CAUCE magazine once again circulated today. Its main article, entitled "The Ideology of Opium Dei," deals with the Opus Dei.

Following the instructions of military authorities, CAUCE and other opposition magazines (ANALISIS, LA BICICLETA, APSI) had to submit the material to be published to the government's Social Communications Agency.

In the first issue published under the newly imposed censorship, CAUCE carries a 3-page report on the ideology and influence of the Opus Dei "in the Chile of Augusto Pinochet." The magazine reports that 18 priests belong to the Opus Dei in Chile and, quoting Belgian Joseph Comblin, gives assurances that the main theme of the movement's preaching is that each man should resign himself to his own social situation. The magazine reports that Manuel Cruzat and Fernando Larrain, who head the largest corporation in Chile, are among the main local Opus Dei members.

In summary, CAUCE points out that the Opus Dei is "a rightist movement which acts as a parallel church and which counteracts the actions of the diocesan clergy, preaching acceptance of the established order and advising the poor to resign themselves to their situation."

According to the magazine, the following government officials are Opus Dei members: Education Minister Horacio Aranguiz, former Education Minister Gonzalo Vial, Education Superintendent Maria Teresa Infante, and Josefina Aragonese, director of the school of education of the catholic university.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON MINISTER'S ASSASSINATION

PCC Secretary General Comments

PA021757 Bogota Radio Sutatenza Network in Spanish 1415 GMT 1 May 84

[Telephone interview with Gilberto Vieira, secretary general of the Communist Party of Colombia, PCC, by an unidentified reporter -- live]

[Text] [Reporter] Dr Vieira, what is your view of this crime?

[Vieira] This truly abominable crime deserves the condemnation of the PCC and of all conscientious sectors. This crime must be thoroughly investigated. Those responsible are there for all to see; now the masterminds must be found. This crime is similar to others committed against less prominent citizens than Dr Rodrigo Lara by the MAS [Death to Kidnappers], that criminal organization whose origin lies among the drug traffickers. Similar crimes have been committed in Puerto Berrio against the opposition's councilmen, and more recently [words indistinct] peasants who occupied a farm that the INCORA [Colombian Institute of Agrarian Reform] was dividing into plots. This is the continuation of a number of crimes which the Colombian state must put an end to by taking measures against those criminal organizations professionally dedicated to murder.

[Reporter] When Dr Lara Bonilla launched his campaign against the drug traffickers here, many raised their voices, even within the traditional parties, to demand his resignation, his removal from the Justice Ministry because they regarded him as unfit for that post. What is your view on this (?lack of solidarity)?

[Vieira] It reflects the struggle among the traditional party cliques. At the time, there was also some speculation that these attacks on the justice minister reflected (?the mafia's vested interests). In those days of heavy attacks against him, I had the opportunity to meet with Dr Lara Bonilla in his office, where we discussed the problems of the middle Magdalena area. On that occasion I pointed out to him the importance of investigating and locating those who were violently seizing the peasants' land through the MAS. I told him that in my view, the drug traffickers' vested interests were behind these seizures. The justice minister regarded this initiative as very important, but I do not know if he managed to conduct an investigation.

[Reporter] How will the minister's assassination affect the peace efforts that the government is engaged in?

[Vieira] That is hard to say. The peace process, which began with the signing of an agreement between representatives of the FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia] and the Peace Commission (?appointed by) the president of the Republic, outlines a path and sets a timetable for this [words indistinct]. According to Article 10 of this agreement, a meeting with the other groups that are up in arms will be called to urge them to adopt similar positions in accordance with their own guidelines. I think that this process can and should continue. It should not be disrupted by this tragic incident.

[Reporter] Dr Vieira, as you know, this violence goes back a long time, and has recently visibly intensified, reaching its maximum level with the assassination of the justice minister, who represents the administration of justice through the executive branch here in Colombia.

Colombia wastes its time in attacks and counterattacks, responses and rebuttals, criticism and countercriticism. Do you not think that the time has come for all citizens -- the PCC, the Liberal Party, and the Conservative Party -- to assume a more serious and radical position so that a common front can be formed to keep our families from seeing the blood of innocent people like Dr Lara Bonilla shed?

[Vieira] Yes, I think that the time has come to call for the solidarity of all citizens against all forms of terrorist violence and the crimes committed on behalf of organizations like the MAS, against all actions that violate the Colombian people's right to life. In this regard, I think it would be important to mobilize all sectors on 28 May, the date set for the cease-fire in the agreement signed by the FARC and the Peace Commission. This should be done in support of this specific step, taken to achieve democratic peace here in South America.

One Assassin Identified

PA021331 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 2 May 84

[Report by Santiago Latorre Campo from Police Headquarters]

[Text] Attention, one of the assassins of Justice Minister Rodrigo Lara Bonilla, who was killed last night in northern Bogota, has been identified as a convict with a previous criminal record.

Thirty-two-year-old Ivan Dario Guisado Alvarez, an auto mechanic who was born on 20 May 1952, with citizenship identification card number 70,423,804, of Medellin, was the individual who fired the shots that killed the justice minister, according to reports confirmed by the secret police.

Guisado Alvarez has been sent a total of 15 times to the Bella Vista Jail of Medellin, charged with robbery, petty theft, assault, and homicide. He was also sought for a number of other crimes.

Ivan Dario Guisado Alvarez died on the way to the Shaio Clinic, only a few meters from the site of the attack on Justice Minister Rodrigo Lara Bonilla.

Among the clothes of the murdered criminal were 5,500 pesos in 500-peso bills, a picture of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, and a scapular attached to a long chain.

"Super News" investigative journalists have learned the results of the autopsy, which indicated that Guisado Alvarez died as a result of multiple fractures to his skull and of a shot to his groin.

According to the investigations, he fired the shots that ended the justice minister's life. He fired the shots and was fleeing on a motorcycle when he was hit by a shot, lost his balance, and then crashed violently. He died almost instantly.

According to reports from the relatives of Guisado Alvarez and from Medellin, this man had left his family in January. Last Friday he visited his five sisters and three brothers who live in Belen de la Playa neighborhood in northwestern Medellin.

The body of Ivan Guisado Alvarez is still in the morgue, and as of yet no friend or relative has come to claim it.

Meanwhile, Byron Velasquez Arenas, who was wounded and captured by the minister's bodyguard in repelling the unexpected attack, has been transferred to the police clinic, where he is under strict security surveillance. According to the latest reports, this man will be subjected to a number of interrogations starting tomorrow to obtain clues to the whereabouts and the identity of the other individuals who took part in this reprehensible crime.

In addition, ballistics examinations of the cartridges and bullets from the shots that resulted in Minister Rodrigo Lara Bonilla's death are under way at the police cadet academy. It has also been learned that 45-cal bullets, which were fired from an Ingram M11 machinegun, were used in that attack.

Meanwhile, a number of operations are being conducted in Bogota to determine the whereabouts of the other members of this group of hired assassins who ended the life of Justice Minister Rodrigo Lara Bonilla.

Judiciary Branch Strikes

PA021609 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1533 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Bogota, 2 May (EFE) -- The Colombian judiciary branch started a nationwide strike today to protest the assassination of Justice Minister Rodrigo Lara Bonilla in Bogota on Monday night.

A total of 18,000 judges and employees of the jurisdictional branch and 5,000 penitentiary guards throughout the nation are participating in the 24-hour strike. This was told to EFE by Jaime Pardo Leal, magistrate of Bogota's Supreme Court, who is also president of the National Association of Judiciary Branch Officials and Employees.

"The judiciary officials want to shake up public opinion to react in unison against the drug trafficking mafia which is threatening peace," Pardo Leal said.

A statement issued by the judiciary employees association to condemn the attack which cost the life of Minister Lara Bonilla rejects "the atrocious crime that ended the life of he who defended democracy, the de jure state, and public liberties."

The statement added that "the powerful and shady criminal organizations whom Dr Lara Bonilla opposed with titanic courage have perpetrated an assassination [magnicidio] against Colombia, against the judiciary branch, and the democratic opening."

The mortal remains of Minister Rodrigo Lara Bonilla lie in the principal room of the department assembly building of Huila in Neiva. Funeral services will be held this afternoon with the attendance of President Belisario Betancur, the cabinet, ranking national and departmental authorities, and hundreds of thousands of persons arriving in the city to bid him farewell.

GOVERNMENT DECIDES TO ADOPT SECURITY MEASURES

PA022021 Bogota Radio Sutatenza Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Bogota -- The government will adopt a series of security measures after declaring a state of siege throughout Colombia. At 0700 President Belisario Betancur will preside over a cabinet meeting at Narino Palace to assess the latest changes in the country after 24 hours of an emergency state of siege.

The meeting will also be used to study the topics to be presented at the summit of regional presidents that will take place next Friday at Narino Palace.

DECREE ISSUED TO HANDLE DRUG TRAFFICKING

PA021858 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 2 May 84

[Presidential Decree No 1042, issued by President Belisario Betancur in Bogota on 2 May -- announcer read]

[Text] Article 1. The provisions for crimes referred to in Articles 37 and 38, Paragraphs 1, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 49, 50, and 51 of Decree 1188 issued in 1974 on the national statutes on drugs will be handled by the military penal justice, which will try them through military courts, as stated in Volume 4, Chapter 2, of the penal-military penal code, Article 566, and subsequent articles.

Article 2. The legal authority and procedures established in the first article will include crimes related to the violations stated therein.

Article 3. Arrests and preventive imprisonment will be handled according to the laws stated in the penal and military justice code. None of the crimes listed in Article 1 include the right to request a release.

Article 4. The legal authority and procedures established in this decree will be in effect for those cases whose investigation has not been yet started. Regarding the processes already started, the authorities in charge of them according to previous laws will continue to handle the cases in accordance with their regulations: Penal Code D1188 of 1984 and Decree 711 of 1984.

Article 5. This decree will be in effect on the date it is issued.

BETANCUR ANNOUNCES EXTRADITION POLICY IN EULOGY

PA030248 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 May 84

[Excerpts] Neiva -- Colombian narcotics traffickers wanted by the justice departments of other countries will be extradited, President Belisario Betancur said emphatically today. He made the statement during a speech delivered during the funeral of Justice Minister Rodrigo Lara Bonilla, who was murdered in Bogota last Monday by gunmen presumably employed by the narcotics mafia.

In spite of the solemnity of the occasion, the crowd that filled the cathedral in Neiva, Lara's home town, broke into applause at the president's statement.

Betancur said: Colombia will turn over criminals wanted for the commission of crimes in other countries so that they will receive exemplary punishment in this universal operation against an attack that is also universal. There will be no truce for the narcotics traffickers. There will be implacable punishment without furor; there will be firm authority without reflection. The crime and drug international [internacional del crimen y la droga] will see us standing proudly before a homeland that stands united in repudiation.

In this fashion Colombia is planning to comply with the treaty signed with the United States for the extradition of criminals of both nationalities wanted by the justice department of each country, although the government in Bogota had been delaying it. The decision to turn over the Colombian narcotics traffickers to foreign justice authorities is the second step taken by the government in the all-out war it has declared against the narcotics traffic.

This morning, under the state of siege declared following the murder of Rodrigo Lara, the government declared that all crimes of this nature will be resolved by military justice.

Colombia and the United States signed an extradition treaty covering 30 crimes, in addition to narcotics trafficking, in 1979. It was ratified in 1982. In 1983 the United States requested the extradition of 18 Colombians involved in narcotics traffic, including Eliro de Jesus Mejia and Lucas Gomez Van Grieken, who are currently being held in local jails.

The Supreme Court issued a favorable decision to turn them over to U.S. authorities, but in a sovereign decision, President Betancur denied the extradition, saying that since the crimes had been initiated in Colombia, they should be judged here.

We will continue the work of Justice Minister Rodrigo Lara Bonilla, and we will assume the lessons of his life and character, the president said. We will not let up for one moment in the struggle against crime. The evidence we have is an incentive to prevent us from slacking off on the demands of the people, he added. Justice will be done. The crime and drug international will be persecuted implacably for every crime, said Betancur.

[Begin recording] [Betancur] The government will do its duty, I swear to God, and I respectfully expect the country's judges also to do their duty to return to the people confidence in our laws. The president of the Republic takes the first step forward in this national emergency. Out of respect for the dignity of the human being, who has the right to be tried by the judges of his own country, for philosophical reasons, due to conditions concerning the sovereignty of nations expressed in their legal structures, in order to establish a barrier against Manichaeism, and for the sake of Christian arguments, the president opposed the extradition of Colombian citizens wanted by other governments because he believed and continues to believe that they should be tried, condemned, or absolved by their own compatriots.

However, we are in the hour of reflection: The meaning of the homeland and the nation, of what the word citizen means, and these concepts are being trampled on by those who have created an empire without borders, with a black flag as their standard, and with indignity and death as their sole purpose. To them we say: Stop there, enemies of humanity, all humanity. Colombia will turn over criminals wanted for the commission of crimes in other countries. [end recording]

UNLIMITED CREDIT AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH USSR

PA010329 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1948 GMT 29 Apr 84

[By Librado Aguirre Saenz]

[Text] Bogota, 29 Apr (EFE) -- The Soviet Union and Colombia signed an important economic agreement in Bogota today, renewing an unlimited credit agreement and renegotiating the interest rates on the credit line between the two countries.

The announcement was made by the Foreign Trade Institute (INCOMEX), after deciding on the plan for exports and for the import of industrial and agricultural goods through 1990.

The interest on the credit line granted by the Soviet Union to Colombia, according to the agreement, was set at 6 percent for the government sector and 6.5 percent for the private sector during the next 5 years.

The original credit agreement that expired on 17 March 1984 provided for interest rates of 4.5 percent for the government sector and 6.5 percent for the private sector.

During the third session of the bilateral Colombian-Soviet intergovernmental commission for economic and scientific cooperation, which concluded its talks in Bogota, the USSR was asking for interest rates of 7 and 7.5 percent, respectively.

According to INCOMEX director Gustavo Tobon, the credit line extended by the Soviet Union opens broad prospects for Colombia, since it can resort to the USSR for any amount necessary to purchase indispensable capital goods for its development projects.

Tobon said that the preferential interest rates obtained from the USSR are the lowest obtained on the international financial market, where interest on loans fluctuates between 8 and 14 percent.

The Colombian economic authorities said that the credit agreement means further benefits for Colombia, since the agreement provides that Soviet foreign trade organizations must now use the proceeds from the sale of machinery and equipment to Colombia to purchase merchandise from Colombia under normal trade conditions, including the highest possible proportion of manufactured and semimanufactured goods.

The Soviet Union agreed to supply Colombia with a electric buses, capital goods, spare parts, and machinery in general, and to trade four-wheel-drive vehicles (jeeps) for bananas.

Colombia offered and agreed to sell to the USSR manufactured and semimanufactured goods, bananas, coffee, sugar, chloride, and textile goods, among others. This will mark the initiation of large-scale textile exports.

It was reported that the Soviet Union will purchase 5,000 tons of coffee per year for $15 million, 40,000 tons of bananas for $8 million, 35,000 tons of sugar for $6 million, ferric chloride for $500,000, and textiles for $150,000.

The Soviet Union will supply Colombia with $210 million worth of equipment for the Urra hydroelectric plant in northern Colombia starting in 1986.

FARC-GOVERNMENT AGREEMENT CAUSES PCC RIFT

PA030130 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 26 Apr 84 p 10 A

[Excerpts] Yesterday it was established that the signing of an agreement between the FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia] and the government has caused a series of disagreements with in the Communist Party of Colombia [PCC] Central Committee, and resulted in the resignation of Senator Humberto Criales de la Rosa from the party during the plenum held in Bogota prior to Holy Week.

Criales de la Rosa, the only PCC senator, elected as an alternate for Professor Gerardo Molina in the coalition of leftist forces, expressed serious reservations about the effectiveness of the agreement under the country's present social and economic circumstances and President Belisario Betancur's legal and political limitations to implement the structural reforms set forth in the agreement.

The senator, who left for the eastern plains after the confrontation, had previously expressed opinions that the top party leaders termed as negative for the present peace process.

In a statement to EL TIEMPO yesterday, PCC Secretary General Gilberto Vieira denied that these differences amounted to a rift. He said that Criales de la Rosa "had been opposed to various aspects of the party's policies and had maintained deeply mistaken opinions."

Regarding the situation of leader Alvaro Delgado, a party member of long standing, Vieira said that he had long ago asked to be relieved from the Central Committee for health reasons in order to devote himself to his historic and social research work. "The Central Committee of the party accepted the request of Comrade Delgado, a companero who has contributed a great deal to all our tasks and remains a party member," he affirmed.

Concerning the reactivation and intensification of the guerrilla activities after the agreement was signed, Vieira said only that prior to 28 May, the date on which the cease-fire becomes effective, the FARC is not committed to suspend operations.

On the kidnappings that the organization has continued to commit in southern Colombia, in spite of its publicly reaffirmed condemnation of the crime, Vieira said he had no information but recalled that this crime has already been condemned as a harmful and counterproductive method for the revolutionary struggle.

'AMERICAN WATCH' FORCED TO LEAVE ASUNCION

PY021410 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 30 Apr 84 p 11

[Text] Former New York judges who are members of a private organization named "American Watch," involved in the defense of human rights, last Saturday arrived in this country to meet with high officials and representatives of different political parties, but they were forced to leave for Brazil before carrying out any activity.

They explained to this newspaper that the purpose of the visit of the U.S. delegation was to become familiar with our country's juridicial and political situation through meetings with Interior Minister Augusto Montanaro, Supreme Court President Luis Maria Argana, representatives of political parties, and organizations involved in the defense of human rights. According to what they told ULTIMA HORA, the former judges were particularly interested in the situation of Escolastico Ovando, the ABC COLOR petition to have the Supreme Court declare its closure unconstitutional, the request for injunction submitted by ABC COLOR employees, the case of people in exile, and other issues.

The delegation arrived at the international airport on a PLUNA flight from Montevideo and were taken to police headquarters, where they refused to allow their documents to be copied. After U.S. Embassy officials intervened, the delegation was given tickets to travel to Brazil with Varig.

It should be pointed out that Miguel Abdon Saguier of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party and Mario Mallorquin of the Colorado Popular Movement went to the airport to welcome the delegation but were not allowed to enter the incoming passengers terminal.

It was reported that the U.S. Embassy will submit a formal protest of this event to the Paraguayan Foreign Ministry.

PLRA LEADER CRITICIZES 'OBSOLETE' REGIME

PY030044 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Authentic Radical Liberal Party [PLRA] leader Domingo Laino said today in Formosa that the government model that prevails in Paraguay is obsolete in comparison with the new political concept that is presently enforced in the Southern Cone. He also expressed his optimism that the Paraguayan people may soon enjoy the freedom that the Argentine people have today.

The Paraguayan political exile made this statement to TELAM a few days after the Paraguayan police prevented him from deplaning at the Asuncion Presidente Stroessner International Airport. Laino noted that the main objective of his return to Paraguay is to cooperate in everything that will end the state of terror presently in force in Paraguay under the Stroessner dictatorship. He said: Paraguayan citizens fear everything and everybody since anyone may be a member of the secret police of Stroessner's dictatorship. Laino added that a tyranny that has lasted over 30 years, that has practiced a strong and hard state terrorism, has led Paraguayan families to be insecure and uncertain. Laino expressed his wish to work to dismantle the apparatus established over 25 years ago to repress Paraguayans.

Laino visited Formosa for a few hours after travelling to the border town of Clorinda, located 115 km from Formosa, where he met with relatives and PLRA leaders in Paraguay.

STATE WORKERS CALL STRIKE; PRICES INCREASED

PY020214 Paris AFP in Spanish 1649 GMT 1 May 84

[Text] Lima, 1 May (AFP) -- This 1 May was just an ordinary holiday for Peruvian workers, who woke up with a number of price increases while the government promised to do its best to achieve an improvement in salaries. The only workers meeting that was held on this holiday was the one that was held last night in 2 May Plaza, also called Red Plaza because the General Confederation of Peruvian Workers (Communist) traditionally holds its meetings there.

The speakers announced an indefinite general strike of state workers as of tomorrow and the union decision to defeat the economic policy of President Fernando Belaunde's government to the members of the unions of that Confederation and to the members of the independent unions who met in the plaza. Julio Cruzado, the leader of the General Labor Confederation (Aprista) [American Revolutionary Popular Alliance], urged the working class to struggle for democratic freedom. Labor Minister Joaquin Leguia expressed the government's desire to improve salaries and to reduce unemployment and underemployment.

Meanwhile, a number of price increases were announced today, including a 10.73-percent increase in the price of gasoline. It was also announced that there will be more frequent minidevaluations of the sol, the inflation rate has reached 33 percent, the purchasing power of the currency has been reduced by 50 percent, and an increase in the prices of foodstuffs, including bread and milk, is imminent.

LARGE SECTORS ON STRIKE OVER SALARY DEMANDS

PY030030 Paris AFP in Spanish 1731 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Lima, 2 May (AFP) -- The 30,000 employees of the Peruvian Education Ministry began a general strike today, while the 500,000 public servants announced that they will go on an indefinite strike on 5 May. Both strikes are over salary demands. Education Ministry employees are demanding a salary increase of 15,000 soles a day ($5).

In turn, the workers and employees of 27 of the 40 districts of greater Lima are on their 10th day of strike. Some of the workers started a hunger strike today. They are demanding that Lima Mayor Alfonso Barrantes grant them a salary increase of 150,000 soles ($50), retroactive to January. This readjustment was agreed upon with Barrantes' predecessor. The SUTEP [Sole Trade Union of Education Workers], the most influential organization within the teachers' sector, last night decided to go on an indefinite strike on 4 June over salary demands. However, the strike is not being taken seriously because the government granted teachers a salary increase of 100,000 soles ($33.20) in April 1984 and because the SUTEP, though radical, is a secret ally of the regime.

TERRORIST ATTACKS OCCUR IN VARIOUS CITIES 1 MAY

PY030038 Paris AFP in Spanish 1511 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Lima, 2 May (AFP) -- It was reported in Lima today that one policeman was killed and seven others were injured in a number of terrorist attacks carried out by the Shining Path in Lima and in the interior of Peru on Labor Day.

The police reported that policeman [name indistinct], who was seriously injured yesterday by a blast of submachinegun fire from terrorist elements who stole his weapon while he was guarding the FRG Embassy, has died at the central police hospital. Policeman Cesar Cariga, who was also injured by the same terrorists traveling in a car, is still in the hospital.

Meanwhile, in the Marcara District of Huaraz Department, northeast of Lima, about 300 peasants armed with slings, sticks, and machetes and headed by terrorist Mercedes Tadeo, alias Comrade Meche, who is being sought by police, attacked the Arequipa mine, which was being protected by a police cordon. Local police reported that seven people, including six policemen, were injured during the ensuing clash.

Yesterday, a powerful explosion at the tourist hotel of Chiclayo, 760 km north of Lima, caused great material damage but no victims.

In addition, groups of heavily armed Shining Path terrorists attacked an experimental station belonging to Huamanga's university in Huallapampa. After overcoming the personnel, they dynamited the laboratories and caused serious damage. This is the second attack against the station in 2 years.

Yesterday morning, eight armed terrorists, including a woman, wearing ski masks occupied Radio 15-20 of Huancayo in the southeastern part of the country. They aired a cassette recorded message urging the people to join the armed struggle.

Finally, the police reported that three powerful dynamite charges planted by alleged terrorists at a market and at a hill near the La Pampilla refinery in Venzanilla District were defused by specialized policemen yesterday. They added that the terrorists hoisted a red flag in the vicinity of the refinery.

DOZEN TERRORISTS ARRESTED; LEADER GUZMAN ESCAPES

PY021450 Lima Cadena Panamericana Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] The violence is continuing in Ayacucho. Today, police forces found four unidentified bodies along the Ayacucho-Huanta Highway. According to reports, Shining Path leader Abimael Guzman, known as Comrade Gonzalo, was in Huamanga yesterday, but he managed to escape disguised as a nun. However, the police arrested about a dozen terrorists involved in the Palm Sunday attacks.

INDIAN PRESIDENT MAKES STOPOVER IN LIMA

PY021412 Lima Television Service in Spanish 0030 GMT 1 May 84

[Text] During a technical stopover at the Eighth Air Base this morning on his way to the United States, Indian President Zail Singh stressed the duties of India and Peru to seek world peace as members of the UN Security Council. President Singh was greeted by President Belaunde Terry, who expressed Peru's admiration for Indian traditions and the philosophical and cultural values that India has bequeathed to the world.

BRIEFS

DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER NAMED -- Jose Carlos Mariategui Arellano was sworn in as deputy minister and secretary general of the Peruvian Foreign Ministry by Foreign Minister Sandro Mariategui yesterday. [Text] [Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 19 Apr 84 PY]

PRESIDENT TO PAY 2-DAY VISIT TO PARAGUAY

PY030155 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spansih 1518 GMT 2 May 84

[Excerpt] Montevideo, 2 May (TELAM) -- The newspaper EL PAIS in today's issue reports that Uruguayan President General Gregorio Alvarez will make an official 2-day visit to Paraguay around the middle of May.

GEN RAPELA ON BLANCO PARTY DESTABILIZATION PLAN

PY030129 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] The Uruguayan interior minister has reported that the Blanco Party has embarked on a campaign to destabilize the current government. General Julio Cesar Rapela today called the press to his office to discuss Blanco Party leader Gonzalo Aguirre's opinion of the political plan which the Armed Forces proposed on 1 May. General Rapela emphasized that the plan in question is open to discussion and that all political leaders involved were duly apprised of this fact. This is what the interior minister had to say on the matter:

[Begin Rapela recording] Gentlemen, I have asked you to come here because the govenment and the Armed Forces feel that the people must be told the truth about what is happening, especially in connection with certain statements that a political leader made last night concerning a document which the commanders in chief of the Armed Forces branches submitted for the consideration of the leaders of the traditional parties. The people must realize that there is no need to lie in order to distort the truth. By merely withholding part of the truth the people can be deceived, and this is what is happening.

No one explained last night that the measures which the Armed Forces have proposed are transitory measures which will be incorporated into the 1967 Constitution and later approved or amended by a constituent assembly whose members will be elected together with the new government at the coming elections. This is the current position of the Armed Forces which reflects the proposals of certain leaders at the meeting held in Parque Hotel last year.

As to certain restrictions levied on individual rights of those involved in subversive activities, restrictions which a certain political leader categorically rejected yesterday, I would like to recall that barring a few minor objections which have now been overcome, these restrictions were accepted at the Parque Hotel meeting last year. However, the most shocking thing is, and I would like to read it to you to make sure I get it right, what Dr Gonzalo Aguirre said in Parque Hotel on 27 June 1983:

Dr Sanguinetti has stated an opinion which we delegates of the political parties share: Many of these problems can be overcome by establishing through transitory constitutional provisions that the state security law which was voted by a parliament chosen by the people will remain in effect. This law has a number of exceptional mechanisms which go beyond permanent constitutional provisions, which is why this law was denounced as unconstitutional in due time. However, if there is a transitory constitutional provision stating that said state security law will remain in effect until amended by another law it will no longer be unconstitutional.

This is what Dr Gonzalo Aguirre said on 27 June last year. However, yesterday he was surprised by the proposal which the Armed Forces made along these lines.

I must tell you, however, that this harsh and negative attitude of Dr Gonzalo Aguirre, which he voiced even before the executive board of his party was apprised of the document and had the time to strike a position, was prompted by a reason, a reason which is very important for him.

Information available to us and further supported by Wilson Ferreira Aldunate's speech last Saturday in Buenos Aires shows that there is a plan under way to destabilize the current government, thus interrupting the institutionalization process and preventing elections from being held unless Wilson Ferreira Aldunate participates.

This plan will be launched by means of a drive to collect signatures in favor of a plebiscite aimed at amending or eliminating institutional acts. The true objective of this would be to force the government to take steps against those who take to the streets to collect the signatures. This would create an atmosphere of total chaos and destabilization which will be further fanned by strikes, stoppages, and other activities which will be carried out with the help of the Nationalist University Movement. Everyone must be aware of the facts and the people must be warned about the true objectives that are being sought.

The Armed Forces government wishes to reiterate its decision to hold elections in 1984 allowing the participation of all those prepared to reach an agreement on the basis of yesterday's proposals. These proposals, which are basically transitory amendments to the Constitution that will be either approved or not by a constituent assembly elected by the people, are the basis for negotiation.

We also stand firm on our decision against allowing a plebiscite aimed at questioning the institutional acts and measures implemented by the government during this process. Furthermore, if Wilson Ferreira returns to Uruguay, he will have to settle his accounts with the military court, because there is a warrant out for him. This is all I wanted to tell you. Thank uou. [end recording]

Party Leader Refutes Rapela

PY030330 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Hector Lorenzo Rios, one of the leaders of the Blanco Party, has just told this station that the people must make sure that the Armed Forces really want to democratize the nation.

[Begin recording] [Rios] What I have just heard is something which any citizen, any individual with normal hearing must have heard. What I mean is that the minister made several remarks which are completely untrue.

The Blanco Party has never, never tried to destabilize the status quo, much less so under the current unfortunate circumstances. The only thing this party wants is to redemocratize the nation, that is, to restore true and full democracy. For this Wilson Ferreira Aldunate is even willing to give up his presidential aspirations. All the Armed Forces have to do is withdraw these conditions which are hampering the reunion of the Uruguayan family.

We all know that the Armed Forces want to curtail individual guarantees, institutionalize the COSENA [National Security Council], maintain current bans, prevent an amnesty, and continue bringing civilians before military courts. Well, if the Armed Forces are willing to withdraw these conditions the Blanco Party is willing to withdraw Wilson Ferreira Aldunate from the presidential race.

Therefore it is not true, as Minister Rapela has claimed, that we are trying to keep Wilson Ferreira Aldunate in the presidential race. Not at all; we are even prepared to withdraw his candidacy and to say that the candidate nominated by 96 percent of the conventioneers is prepared to give up his presidential aspirations in order to restore true democracy in Uruguay.

It is now up to the military men to say that they really want to restore democracy in Uruguay. If they truly want to accomplish this they will have to withdraw the conditions which go against popular will. In a historical gesture which truly honors him as a politician and a man Wilson Ferreira Aldunate offered to sacrifice his presidential aspirations to make sure that democracy is, in fact, restored in the nation. The remarks of the interior minister describing the situation are not only personal but also derogatory.

[Unidentified reporter] By the way, Dr Rios, the interior minister just said that at the meetings held at Parque Hotel, Gonzalo Aguirre reportedly indicated that the Blanco Party could approve the enactment of several exceptional measures tied to the national security law. What can you tell us about that?

[Rios] Dr Aguirre was one of the delegates of the Blanco Party looking for paths for dialogue and understanding with the Armed Forces. He was not speaking for the party as a whole. Personally, I would have opposed any such concession because I feel that it would prevent democratic institutionalization, which is what the people want at this point.

[Reporter] Dr Rios, in view of the obvious differences between the Armed Forces and the Blanco Party, what will happen from now on?

[Rios] I would like to make something very clear: We are prepared, and we have said so a thousand times, to forget the past and seek out a happy future which could make this nation serve its people.

Unfortunately, higher echelons of the Armed Forces continue to say that the past is not going to forget about us and that they have a duty to the people which they believe is to repress, repress, and repress.

We feel that the Armed Forces have fulfilled their mission and having defeated those violent minorities which sought to take power 10 years ago, as the Armed Forces themselves have acknowledged, the only thing for the Armed Forces to do now is to arrange the transfer of power to civilians freely chosen by the people without any conditions or restrictions.

[Reporter] What will have to happen for the Blanco Party and the Armed Forces to resume negotiations?

[Rios] Well, first of all the higher echelons of the Armed Forces have to change their minds. They have to understand that a small group of persons can under no circumstances represent 3 million inhabitants or take the place of the 2.2 million citizens who represent the general feeling of the nation.

They (?seem) to believe that they are entitled to act on behalf of the citizenry, on behalf of the constituency. Well, they must not think that they are the ones who should draft a constitution. Drafting a constitution is a prerogative of the constituency, of the people, not of 20 or 26 generals. They must realize that they have fulfilled their mission and that they must go back to their specific duties and allow the people to freely choose their destiny. Then we will have a democratic system in the country. As long as they continue to set conditions which go against the will of the people and the republican traditions of the nation, no agreements will be possible with the high command. [end recording]

Mobilization To Proceed

PY030142 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 May 84

[Excerpts] The Blanco Party tonight decided to continue with the campaign to gather signatures to hold a plebiscite. This was revealed to Radio Carve by Blanco Party leader Father Juan Martin Posadas after a meeting held at the House of the Lamas.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Did the Blanco Party decide to go ahead with the mobilization during the meeting held tonight?

[Posadas] Yes. The Blanco Party held a working meeting with the committee that is in charge of implementing the mobilization, about which we exchanged views. [end recording]

COPIES OF OPPOSITION WEEKLY CONFISCATED

PY021640 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0238 GMT 2 May 84

[Excerpt] Montevideo, 1 May (EFE) -- The issue of the opposition weekly LA DEMOCRACIA which was to appear tomorrow in Uruguay was today confiscated by the police, the publishers of the weekly have reported.

The publishers of LA DEMOCRACIA had delayed publication of this issue in order to include a speech delivered last Saturday in Buenos Aires by Wilson Ferreira Aldunate. The authorities confiscated all copies of this edition from the printing shop of the newspaper EL PAIS.

LA DEMOCRACIA, which follows the line of the Ferreira Aldunate-led faction of the Blanco Party, had announced that it would defy the restrictions the military regime has imposed on the press coverage of Ferreira Aldunate's presence in Buenos Aires.

DEMONSTRATORS, POLICE CLASH IN MONTEVIDEO 1 MAY

PY021455 Paris AFP in Spanish 2356 GMT 1 May 84

[Text] Montevideo, 1 May (AFP) -- Approximately 1,000 supporters of the traditional Nacional or Blanco Party who were chanting antigovernment slogans were harshly attacked by police at the end of a Labor Day rally in this city, well-informed sources have reported. According to these sources, the demonstrators were members of For the Fatherland, a faction of the Blanco Party led by exiled leader Wilson Ferreira Aldunate. The sources added that the police charged the demonstrators in the vicinity of Government House, a few blocks from the Blanco Party headquarters, and that no arrests had been made.

ANOTHER ATTACK REPORTED ON SHOP IN MONTEVIDEO

PY261535 Paris AFP in Spanish 1353 GMT 26 Apr 84

[Text] Montevideo, 26 Apr (AFP) -- It was reported here today that a furniture store was shot up, in addition to the three attacks that were carried out early this morning against two furniture stores and the house of a journalist.

The owner of the store, which sells furniture and interior decorator articles, revealed that unknown persons shot up the front of the store and that four large caliber bullets, presumably fired from a shotgun, destroyed the glass front of the store, damaged furniture, and ended up embedded in a wall 15 meters away in the back of the store. As in the case of the other attacks, there were no casualties because nobody was on the premises at the time of the attack.

While a shotgun was used in this and in a similar attack against the home of journalist Ignacio Lezama, publisher of the leftist newspaper CINCO DIAS -- which was recently closed down by the government -- attacks against the other two furniture stores involved high powered bombs.

Up to the present time no organization or group has claimed responsibility for the attacks, although it was been confirmed that they are related because the three businesses advertised in CINCO DIAS.

Unknown Group Claims Credit

PY280120 Paris AFP in Spanish 2050 GMT 27 Apr 84

[Text] Montevideo, 27 Apr (AFP) -- An ultrarightist group self-styled the Nationalist Patriotic Alliance [Alianza Patriotica Nacionalista, APN] has claimed responsibility for the four politically motivated attacks carried out in Montevideo in recent hours against the director of a recently closed leftist newspaper and several of its advertisers.

A number of leaflets thrown in various parts of the city accounted for the APN's responsibility. The leaflets said: "Paid leftist mercenaries such as CINCO DIAS (the name of the newspaper whose director was attacked) and its advertisers have betrayed the fatherland. Last night's attacks were only a warning. We do not want victims. We shall return." The attacks caused no injuries.

There is no police record of this organization.

JAQUE REPORTS DOCTOR DIED FROM TORTURE

PY272220 Paris AFP in Spanish 1552 GMT 27 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Montevideo, 27 Apr (AFP) -- Today the Colorado Party weekly JAQUE said that the death of an Uruguayan doctor of Russian origin, Vladimir Roslik, during his detention for subversive activities in a military garrison outside Montevideo, was caused by torture. In an article signed by the chief editor and the assistant editor -- an article for which the weekly director Manuel Flores Silva was held responsible -- JAQUE based its report on prestigious doctors directly involved in the case who emphatically confirmed the torture under the promise that their names not be publicly released.

DE LA MADRID ON MAY DAY INCIDENTS AT PALACE

FL022219 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1925 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Mexico City, 2 May (NOTIMEX) -- We are not willing to let minority groups introduce violence into Mexican affairs. We know who the enemies of the republic are and we know how to rigorously enforce the law and the power of rights to preserve the nation and national sovereignty, President Miguel de la Madrid stressed today.

Referring to the incidents that took place during the May Day parade when a group of students threw two devices [artefactos] at the National Palace, the chief executive said small groups of agitators had attempted to tarnish the commemoration of Labor Day.

In his opening remarks to the 23d regular convention of the National Trade Union of Miners and Metalworkers of the Mexican Republic, the president said: I must comment on this, because it happened and it is a reality we are facing. Small minority groups, unfortunately composed of mostly young students, are being recruited to create disturbances, and we see foreign interference in this.

He noted that the government respects the freedom to express ideologies and criticism of the government by all social organizations, but that the government is also conscious of the responsibility it has to maintain social peace and public order.

The moments Mexico is experiencing on the world scene are difficult. We observe that sister nations have become the arena for international conflicts and that those who have turned those countries into war zones do not mind destroying nations. No one will destroy Mexico, he stressed.

The chief executive said Mexico has national strength because it has institutions such as trade unions. He added that during the parade the organized labor movement demonstrated its firmness, strength, and loyalty in defending the principles of its members and irrevocable patriotism.

He pointed out that it is fundamental for the political and social system to maintain a dialogue between the unions and the government, which is why close communication must exist. Likewise, the president said he advocates the dialogue to seek better ways to move the country forward and protect the majority's interests.

GOVERNMENT TO GUARANTEE REFUGEES' SAFETY

FL022047 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1657 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Mexico City, 2 May (NOTIMEX) -- The Mexican Government condemns the attack against El Chupadero Camp of Guatemalan refugees, located on the country's southern border, during which some six persons were killed, Secretary of Government Manuel Bartlett Diaz has stressed.

Interviewed prior to the May Day parade, the official said Mexico is prepared to work toward preventing these acts of violence because it is committed to preserving the security of the Guatemalan refugees. Likewise, it was announced that the possibility of moving the camps to other areas is being studied, so that the refugees may be safer and be able to satisfy their material needs in accordance with Mexico's traditional humanitarian policy.

The secretary of government indicated that it is not known where the attackers came from, inasmuch as the camp is merely 200 meters from the Mexico-Guatemala border, but stressed that the case is under investigation.

Secretary of National Defense General Juan Arevalo Gardoqui announced that a security unit has been assigned to the area to avoid a repetition of the attacks.

In Guatemala, the government issued a communique affirming that guerrillas had perpetrated the attack, while other versions insist the aggressors were wearing Guatemalan National Guard uniforms.

CUBAN, NICARAGUAN ENVOYS ASSAIL U.S. POLICY

PA020221 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 28 Apr 84 p 13

[By Victor Manual Juarez]

[Excerpts] After asserting that Cuba does not export its revolution because revolutions originate in the social, economic, and political conditions in each nation, Cuban Ambassador to Mexico Jose Agustin Fernandez de Cossio noted that the small contingent of Cuban advisers in Nicaragua will be withdrawn if the United States removes the troops it keeps permanently stationed in the area, and once the mining of ports and the subversive activities along Nicaragua's borders cease.

For his part, Edmundo Jarquin Calderon, the new Nicaraguan ambassador to Mexico, said that the huge U.S.-promoted aggression against Nicaragua is an undeclared war that is expressed through a border conflict: "It is one of the largest conventional wars in Latin America in the last few decades."

Fernandez de Cossio denied that Cuba is supporting the Salvadoran guerrillas with arms, and said that ill-intentioned statements are being continually repeated. He reiterated Cuba's support for Contadora as the only way to achieve peace. He came out in favor of an end to the aggressive U.S. activities in Central America.

Regarding Eden Pastora, the Cuban diplomat said that Pastora is a traitor to his country, "a turncoat who is on the same payroll as Savimbi -- that of the CIA." He added that events in Central America are a result of a problem that has become complicated because of the U.S. presence. "These problems result from Central America's political, economic, and social situation. The allegation that the East-West conflict has been moved to the region formspart of the black-and-white approach of the current U.S. Administration, which views all of the world's problems in terms of ideology," he concluded.

COSTA RICA

GUTIERREZ PROTESTS RECENT NICARAGUAN ATTACK

PA030447 Paris AFP in Spanish 0327 GMT 3 May 84

[Excerpts] San Jose, 2 May (AFP) -- The Costa Rican Government today protested to Nicaragua against a "premeditated," armed attack by the Sandinist Army on Costa Rican territory and warned that this incident "has brought relations between the two countries to their lowest level."

Costa Rican Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez sent a protest note to Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto. Gutierrez said that the attack, which occurred last Sunday, "is the gravest incident that has occurred in the last 2 years."

According to Costa Rica, "two Nicaraguan Air Force planes of the 'push-and-pull' type overflew Costa Rica" five times last Sunday morning. Gutierrez said that the planes fired "no fewer than 50 68-mm rockets over the town of San Isidro de Pocosol, in the area of Tiricias, 3 km from the border between the two countries, seriously endangering the lives of 54 inhabitants."

Gutierrez announced that in the note President Luis Alberto Monge sent instructions to "Costa Rica's public force not to permit a repetition of such incidents and to use all means at its disposal to repel any further aggression in defense of national sovereignty." He added that the incident "once more points to the unmotivated hardening of the Nicaraguan Government's attitude toward the Costa Rican Government."

In the note Gutierrez recalled to D'Escoto that last Monday, during a meeting between the Contadora Group and the Central American foreign ministers in Panama, he asked for a mission from this Group to verify in the field what had happened the previous Sunday. He added: "I hope that, as you said at the meeting in question, you will accept and support the mission's visit."

The Costa Rican foreign minister asked his Nicaraguan colleague "to punish those responsible" for the attack and the submit "a corresponding apology."

SOLANO VIEWS POSSIBLE S. AMERICAN MILITARY AID

PA030330 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Public Security Minister Angel Edmundo Solano Calderon has not discarded the possibility of asking for military aid from South American nations for our defense on the northern border. At an improvised news conference, Minister Solano Calderon said.

[Begin recording] [Solano] I understand the Security Council is considering a request for aid from friendly nations, although we (?can still manage) with what we have.

[Unidentified reporter] What friendly nations do you have in mind?

[Solano] There are many. Perhaps we can contact the same ones used by former President Rodrigo Carazo.

[Reporter] Don Edmundo, President Monge has said that the greatest achievement of his administration has been to maintain peace. Do you think this will be possible in the upcoming months, in view of the deteriorating situation in Central America?

[Solano] If we do not lose our heads but proceed cautiously, taking into consideration that, above all, we should be concerned with resolving our own problems before international ones, it will be possible. To uphold our sovereignty with dignity does not mean that we will lend ourselves to being used in a pincer tactic for an international adventure against another country. I believe we will be able to maintain peace. [end recording]

EL SALVADOR

ROLE OF VENEZUELAN 'ADVISERS' QUESTIONED

PA020147 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 30 Apr 84 p 11

[Text] The presence of a considerable number of Venezuelan citizens in our country with the title of "adviser" from various organizations such as IVEPO [Venezuelan Institute for Popular Education] has surprised many Salvadoran citizens.

Doubts have arisen because reports from Caracas state that Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi has dismantled an espionage network that operated in Central America. It has been alleged that these agents are connected with the aid that is being extended to the Salvadoran Christian Democrats by an organization called IVEPO, which is connected to the Christian Democratic Organization of America, ODCA. IVEPO is said to be financed with funds from secret Venezuelan Government appropriations, in which former Foreign Minister Aristides Calvani played a decisive role.

The espionage network established by the previous Christian Democratic government "is composed of many agents and is very expensive," according to statements by Venezuelan officials. The espionage and destabilization activities that had been perpetrated in Central America were directed by Arpard Bango and Remberto Uzcategui, both former directors of the Venezuelan Directorate of Intelligence and Prevention Services, DISIP. It has been claimed that the network consisted of intelligence agents and Armed Forces officers and often made use of diplomatic cover.

The Salvadoran citizens who reported the presence of the large number of "advisers" in our country hope that the authorities will explain what their real work is. They also expect an explanation from the Venezuelan Embassy.

ARMY REPORTS CLASHES WITH GUERRILLAS IN CABANAS

PA030350 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 2 May 84

[Communique issued by the Armed Forces Press Committee, COPREFA, in San Salvador on 2 May 1984]

[Text] This is a report from the Armed Forces Press Committee, COPREFA, for Radio Cadena YSKL's listeners: Eleven FMLN terrorists were killed yesterday while soldiers of Military Detachment No 2, headquartered in Sensuntepeque, and troops of the Airborne Battalion [not further identified] were conducting searches in the area of Jutiapa and Tejutepeque, in the central Department of Cabanas.

Terrorist columns were taken by surprise at (Calera) Hill, in the jurisdiction of Jutiapa in the same department, and fighting ensued. The clash left 11 terrorists dead and an undetermined number wounded. An M-16 rifle and ammunition were seized. The Armed Forces suffered no casualties in these actions.

FARABUNDO MARTI REPORTS APRIL ARMY CASUALTIES

PA020007 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundi Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 1 May 84

[Text] FMLN forces have wiped out the equivalent of a battalion of the dictatorship in fighting throughout the national territory in April.

The government Army suffered 357 casualties -- dead and wounded -- during the month of April. Of these 357 casualties, 9 were officers and noncommissioned officers who were either killed or wounded in battles with our people's army. The Yankee tactics are being defeated by our people in arms. A total of 357 men have been put out of action in a single month of fighting. During the month of April, 27 soldiers opted to surrender rather than die fighting for an unjust cause. A total of 27 soldiers laid down their weapons. The people's army -- an army composed of workers -- has snatched 119 weapons from the exploiters' army in a single month of fighting. These 119 weapons are being fired today to salute International Workers Day.

VENCEREMOS ON REFUGEE SITUATION, U.S. AMBASSADOR

PA022024 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 2 May 84

[Excerpts] Attention, pay close attention: We have been informed, with regard to the reports that we have aired on previous programs about the situation currently threatening the Salvadoran refugees in Honduras, that two trucks loaded with troops have arrived in Colomoncagua accompanied by two U.S. officers. This contingent of Honduran troops must be added to the military and paramilitary units that have kept the refugee camps in San Antonio and Colomoncagua under seige and incommunicado since Sunday, 22 April. Four Salvadoran refugees were found murdered only 500 meters from the camp at San Antonio after the Honduran troops had undertaken large-scale gunfire around the camp on the previous evening.

We call on the peoples of Honduras and El Salvador and on the media to pay close attention to the situation, because the military operation currently under way in the border area may be an attempt to forcibly and violently evict the refugees so that they may be transferred to some location deeper inside Honduran territory. We are raising this point because the operation currently under way against the refugees might produce victims, given the repressive tactics used against them. On several occasions, the Salvadoran refugees have expressed total opposition to relocating deeper inside Honduras. The major opponents to this just position have been General Gustavo Alvarez Martinez, the fascist militaryman who was deposed a month ago, and U.S. Ambassador John Dimitri Negroponte.

The operations currently under way against our countrymen in the area of Colomoncagua are supported by pressure and interference from the imperialist Ambassador Negroponte. Thus, a large part of the responsibility for whatever may happen to the refugees will his. We urge the international organizations that care for the refugees to intercede on behalf of our threatened countrymen. We also urge them to endorse the refugees' just position against relocation. Finally, we urge representatives of the international media to go to the area of Colomoncagua to investigate these incidents.

VENCEREMOS: HONDURAN TROOPS DEPLOYED ON BORDER

PA030149 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 3 May 84

[Text] This is a last-minute report. Your close attention, please. The Honduran Army has again established a cordon along the border with our country, in Chalatenango Department, just as it did prior to the electoral farce of 25 March. Now, for the second round, the Honduran Army has again deployed its troops along the border with our country in this Department of Chalatenango. Honduran troops are at this moment in Guarita, (Calpulte), Valladolid, and other places at the border, receiving orders from the North American military. These actions by the Honduran Army may be related to the plan to relocate all Salvadoran refugees from the areas bordering El Salvador.

VENCEREMOS ON WORKERS' STRUGGLES, MAY DAY

PA022025 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 2 May 84

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] Here in El Salvador, the Salvadoran workers acted on 1 May to reaffirm their historic combativeness and heroism in the struggle against an exploitative oligarchy, which has tried to preserve its privileges with blood and fire. The struggle undertaken by the rural workers and the laborers has been lengthy. They, who represent the majority of our country's labor force, have been subjected by the oligarchy to miserable living conditions; they have been the victims of exploitation. The rural workers have struggled to improve their living conditions and to obtain better wages during the coffee, cotton, and sugarcane harvests. They have struggled for their right to have permanent and stable work and to organize freely. But the oligarchy, which is kept in power by U.S. imperialism, has refused to recognize the rural workers' rights because the basis of the oligarchy's wealth is the theft and exploitation it undertakes against the workers in its businesses and on the agricultural plantations. In its zeal to accumulate wealth, the oligarchy regards the worker as an enemy who must be subjugated by use of repression and terror. Salvadoran exploiters have been able to rely on the national Army and the armed organizations to protect their ill-gotten gains, as the latter repress workers and massacre peasants who demand an end to theft on the farms when the cotton or coffee is weighed. The oligarchs have always regarded the National Guard as the wealthy's preferred armed organization against the oppressed.

However, 50 years of oligarchic and pro-imperialist dictatorship have met with a response from organized Salvadoran workers. They stage combative strikes in the cities, while thousands of other workers take up weapons to secure the workers' strategic interests on the battle fronts. Salvadoran workers: Let us continue our struggle to satisfy your demands! Salvadoran workers: Join the FMLN ranks, taking up a rifle on behalf of national dignity and sovereignty!

On this May Day, greater popular organization and the expansion of the war for liberation are the workers' priorities. On this May Day, the armed workers are struggling to seize power for all workers. This victory will benefit all our people, bringing better wages and better social benefits, such as good housing, medical attention, education for the workers' children, and respect for the right of the Salvadoran workers and peasants to organize, using the national wealth on behalf of our entire people.

On this May Day, we reiterate our determination to expand our actions for liberation and to intensify our blows against an exploitative and moribund oligarchy that has no political plan except in military plan that Reagan has imposed upon it as a safeguard.

GUATEMALA

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON MEXICAN REFUGEE CAMP ATTACK

PA022318 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Armed men yesterday attacked a camp of Guatemalan refugees in Mexico, killing either six or eight persons, according to various telephone and news agency reports received here today from Mexico.

The reports have, in essence, been confirmed by our government through a communique issued tonight. The Mexican media has attributed the incident to the Guatemalan Army, while the Guatemalan Government has blamed it on guerrillas. Mexican authorities in the place where the incident occurred tonight confirmed this last version during a telephone conversation with this newscast's personnel.

In connection with this incident, the Guatemalan Government has issued the following communique, which we received tonight:

[Began unidentified speaker's recording in progress] ...press of the Guatemalan Government notes: That the government of the republic informs the working and peaceful people of Guatemala that subversive criminals yesterday attacked Trinitarias village, in Mexican territory, located near Chacaj, Nenton municipality, Huehuetenango, killing eight of the many refugees who were in Trinitarias trying to return to their original communities in the national territory.

In order to carry our this vandalistic action, the subversive criminals took the refugees in Trinitarias by surprise, wearing the camouflage uniform of the Guatemalan Army. It must be remembered that the subversives resorted to the same trick when they recently attacked a group of military engineers who were peacefully carrying out their work in the area of Chacaj.

The subversive criminals' strategy is in line with their total failure, in all aspects, of their futile struggle to implement communist totalitarianism in Guatemala, more specifically in the rural areas.

In Trinitarias they wounded and killed persons of various ages in an effort to keep them from returning to this country. They also prepared an underhanded propaganda campaign so that after carrying out their sinister plan they would have ready access to the information media. This explains why, shortly after this execrable action was committed, it was publicized both locally and internationally.

The moral stature of these subversive criminals is below the inhuman level. Not only did they try to impersonate national Army members, but they committed a crime against the fatherland by seeking to involve our Armed Forces' members in the condemnable attack perpetrated against Guatemalan refugees and spreading the distorted report that Guatemalan troops had invaded the territory of the friendly Mexican country, with whose people and government, happily, the best of relations exist.

The subversive criminals must realize that only their desperate situation, characterized by defeat, forces them to act viciously and with contempt for the majesty of the human rights which they claim to respect and defend. [end recording]

PIN NOT TO PARTICIPATE IN UPCOMING ELECTIONS

PA012334 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 1 May 84

[Text] The Civil Registry has received 4,160 signatures in support of the committee for the formation of the National Integration Party [Partido de Integracion Nacional -- PIN]. Jorge Antonio Castillo is the secretary general of this party in formation.

However, it has been learned that the PIN will not participate in the election for a constitutent assembly because of the time factor, but it will begin campaigning in the interior of the country and participate in next year's general elections.

The PIN's emblem is a white dove flying on a blue background. A bulletin released by the party states that the emblem represents the peace symbol.

HONDURAS

WORKERS PROTEST UNEMPLOYMENT ON LABOR DAY

PA021739 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Tegucigalpa, DPA -- The celebration of International Labor Day in Honduras was marked by criticism of the government by about 60,000 workers who held demonstrations in Tegucigalpa and San Pedro Sula.

About 20,000 people marched in San Pedro Sula, the second most important city in northern Honduras, while about 40,000 people marched in Tegucigalpa with placards demanding jobs and condemning the disappearance of more than 100 people, including labor leaders.

Statistics from the Honduran Economists Association and the labor unions indicate that the unemployment rate is 41.3 percent, affecting about 500,000 people out of a labor force of 1.2 million. In this regard, the government maintains that there are 256,000 unemployed, or 21.2 percent of the labor force.

Yesterday's marches to celebrate International Labor Day were organized by the three main labor confederations in Tegucigalpa. The demonstrators demanded from the government the dissolution of the Association for the Development of Honduras, APROH, which was headed by General Gustavo Alvarez, ousted commander of the Armed Forces, and is made up of business, student, professional, labor, and peasant leaders.

According to various leaders of the labor confederations, APROH attacks citizens' rights and promotes the wave of repression unleashed by the state security forces against those who oppose the government policy.

Felicito Avila, secretary general of the General Workers Confederation, CGT, accused the government of having held up the agrarian reform and of not having defined a policy to resolve the problem of landless peasants.

Napoleon Acevedo Granados, president of the United Federation of Honduran Workers, FUTH, demanded the withdrawal of the U.S. troops who, jointly with the Honduran Army, are carrying out maneuvers in the national territory and he charged that the U.S. ambassador in Tegucigalpa is inciting the security forces to repress the black communities in the country's north.

NICARAGUA

FISHING BOAT HITS MINE, SINKS OFF CORINTO

PA021928 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] At 0545, a fishing boat collided with a powerful mine and completely sank in the port of Corinto near Buoy No 1. The boat, Commandante Pedro Arauz Palacios, is owned by ALINSA [Alimentos Interamericanos S.A.], a shrimp fishing and processing company.

The crew members were slightly injured. Companeros Nenesimo Mejia, Rene Gaitan, Adan Arauz, Edgar Garcia, and Captain Cristobal Umana were injured by the mines placed by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency. The report was released to our correspondent in Corinto by ALINSA general manager Francisco Gonzalez.

D'Escoto Protests to Shultz

PA030104 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2213 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Managua, 2 May (ACAN-EFE) -- The Nicaraguan Government today said that "the criminal action" of mining the country's ports in continuing.

A "vigorous protest" note from the Sandinist authorities to the United States affirms that Piranha boats "from U.S. mother ships anchored off Nicaragua's Pacific coast are continuing the mining of the ports."

One of these mines, according to Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto's note to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, sank a fishing boat today in the port at Corinto, on the Pacific coast.

The mine exploded when the Pedro Arauz Palacios fishing boat, owned by the state, was leaving Corinto Bay this morning, between buoys No 2 and 3.

The Foreign Ministry in Managua has not reported any victims as a result of the sabotage of the Nicaraguan Institute of Fisheries (INPESCA) boat.

In its protest note, the Nicaraguan Government demanded that the United States "immediately and definitely cease these criminal actions, which violate basic principles of the UN Charter."

According to official reports so far, the mining of Nicaraguan Pacific and Atlantic coast ports has cost the country more than $9 million in losses.

The presence of the acoustic and magnetic mines in this country's ports "continues to seriously endanger international maritime traffic at a particularly difficult moment for Central America," the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry note added.

Official sources insisted that the mining of the ports continues while U.S. ships carry out "provocative maneuvers" in the Gulf of Fonseca (Pacific coast), in overt opposition and in an effort to obstruct the peace efforts being made by the Contadora Group." [quotation marks as received]

The note concluded that "it is evident that unless the U.S. Government ceases its arrogant and illegal attitude, which radically sets it apart from the international legal order regulating relations between states that aspires to live in peace, it will be truly impossible to find just and lasting solutions to the grave Central American crisis."

WHEELOCK SPEAKS ON ECONOMY, COUNTERREVOLUTION

PA012322 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1615 GMT 1 May 84

[Speech by Commander Jaime Wheelock Roman, minister of agriculture, cattle development, and agrarian reform, at the International Labor Day commemoration at the German Pomares Stadium in Chinandega -- live]

[Excerpts] This 1 May 1984 has found the Nicaraguan people enmeshed in a struggle to achieve sovereignty and better levels of well-being and social progress.

It is very different from 1 May 1963, when the workers and students who demonstrated were massacred; from 1965, when workers were repressed and tortured; and from 1978 and 1979, when some of the workers' leaders were either murdered, imprisoned, or put in torture chambers. Today we find the people demonstrating freely and celebrating this workers day with joy. [crowd chants slogans]

There is an important factor that we must emphasize on this 1 May. In 1978 the entire Nicaraguan working class was organized into a meager 133 labor unions, which had a total of 25,000 affiliates. That was all that Somozism permitted. The Somozists also outlawed the unionization of the agricultural workers and the peasants. Chinandega knows this well. It remembers the persecutions of Santa Rosa del Penon and the massacre of the union workers in the sixties. Peasant unions were persecuted and their leaders, including Bernardino Diaz Ochoa, were massacred by the Somozist guard.

In 1984, from the 133 labor unions in the past we have jumped to more than 3,000 unions, which have a total of 250,000 organized workers. [applause, crowd chants slogans]

The labor unions are the means through which the working class organizes itself to improve its working conditions and to discuss -- now in fraternal discussions with the state's administrators or through the Labor Ministry -- their social and economic benefits and demands.

What has the revolution done for the workers? Has it only organized their unions? No! It has organized the revolutionary power, incorporating the working class into its structure because the working class is in power in Nicaragua! [applause, crowd chants slogans]

This 1 May finds Nicaragua waging two fierce battles. One of them addresses the people in pain and sorrow and has an impact on all of us with dread and consternation. It is the same battle waged by Estrada, Zeledon, and Sandino: the battle for Nicaragua, for the sovereignty that Nicaragua has not yet attained. It is waged by the people and particularly by the youth who want to be more Nicaraguan and make us worthy of calling ourselves Nicaraguan. The people live and suffer this battle each time they learn of a youth who could have been a doctor, an engineer, or a production technician, who has been killed in the struggle against imperialism. [crowd chants slogans]

The battle has been long and hard. It will continue to be hard as long as the United States continues its imperialistic policy. To state that there is a war in Nicaragua because we are friends with the USSR, communists, because we have established a tyranny in Nicaragua, or because we violate human rights as the Reagan administration claims is a lie. They intervened in Nicaragua in 1856 when it was not even dreamed that there would be a socialist revolution in the USSR. They are not intervening against us because we are socialists, communists, or tyrants. They never intervened against Somoza or Pinochet, Duvalier, Stroessner in Paraguay, the Israelis, or against themselves, who are the worst tyrants and the worst fascists on earth. [applause, cheers]

We are defending the sovereignty of the fatherland and the Nicaraguan people who, as before, are willing to shed their last drop of blood to achieve their independence. [crowd chants slogans]

There is another war, another difficult battle: the one that affects the workers' pockets and salaries and causes shortages. This is a much more complex and difficult war. We have been facing this problem with courage since the beginning, in the same way that we have faced the imperialist aggression with determination.

The workers feel that the salaries they earn are too low to cover basic necessities. Isn't it true that you feel that way? Don't you feel that? [scattered shouts]

We have been fighting this problem since the triumph of the revolution. When there is a big difference between salaries and the prices of staples, there is a problem. As you remember, after the triumph, when Somoza left, our currency was devalued, our economy was in shambles, and Nicaragua was in debt. What happened in the first few months? There were no beans or rice because no one had planted their crops. There were no eggs because all the chickens and hens had disappeared. What happened? The price of eggs tripled or quadrupled because there was a shortage, and when this happens, while salaries and production remained normal, the prices of the products that are scarce went up. Some products were never scarce. There was always sugar and milk. However, eggs, meat, corn, beans, and rice were scarce. So what did we do? Since we could not produce them, we imported them. Throughout 1980 and 1981 we kept obtaining loans and spending our foreign exchange to purchase corn, milk [as heard], beans, and rice. Back then, the scarcity was not felt because there was none.

However, since those problems, we have been experiencing other very serious and complex ones. The first one is that the Sandinist popular revolution coincided with an international crisis that is affecting the economies of all poor nations. Even some economically strong nations have had to devalue their currencies, sending thousands of workers into the ranks of the unemployed. Despite this, we have been fighting this international crisis, trying not to hurt the workers financial positions or their pockets.

We must point out that following the destruction and the shortages, Nicaragua has had problems in reactivating its economy and raising the levels of production to satisfy the people's demands. In a word, this means that there are some products that simply do not meet the demand of all the workers. We produce more rice, eggs, chickens, and beans, but the people consume more of these products. Then we have a shortage, which causes the prices to skyrocket.

There is another very important factor. The destruction by Somozism, the shortages that we experienced after the war, and the economic crisis that has weakened our capacity to give the people medicine and food, to reactivate production, to improve our defense capabilities, or prevent more indebtedness are not the only factors that affect us. The aggression also affects us. What is more, I dare say that the aggression against Nicaragua is the factor that affects us most. In the past 2 years, 2,200 farmworkers and workers have been killed as a result of the aggression.

Not only the units that produce food and export products are attacked. The units of the Public Works Ministry that are building access roads to channel the production are also attacked. The trucks that bring milk to the cities are ambushed. Only 2 days ago, when ENABAS [National Enterprise for Staple Foods] workers were transporting beans from Nueva Guinea to Leon, Chinandega, Managua, they were ambushed by counterrevolutionary groups who murdered them and burned the truck and its cargo. In other words, this is part of imperialism's plan of attack to strangle us economically and financially: by destroying production units, dismantling cooperatives, killing producers, destroying constructive activities, and hindering storage activities. These actions also include mining our ports to block our economy, strangling and bleeding the Nicaraguan people.

This is why, despite all the efforts of the revolution, we must admit from the outset that it is very difficult to satisfy the hunger that our people have suffered for years. Many years will have to pass before we can see the benefits of production plans that are under way, and which you have seen with your own eyes: programs for basic grains, rice, milk, sorghum, agroindustrial products, vegetables, etc. These are only small steps in solving the people's problems. Thus, the nutrition and food shortage problems will not be solved in the near future. However, we will not be able to overcome this situation as long as the international crisis continues.

This is the profound significance of this historical period: The fact that we Nicaraguans are defending the territory the United States believes should be its own because it has conquered it. This territory belongs to the Nicaraguan people, and this is why we are defending it, and this is why we must have 60,000, 70,000 and 100,000 men in arms. [applause]

Imperialism wants to recover its hegemony in Nicaragua. How? In two ways: through treason, using men like Moncada, or Pastora, who want to relinquish our revolution, thousands of dead, the people's achievements, to imperialism. They have been waiting for this treason for some time. But the FSLN -- like Sandino -- does not sell out or surrender, and will not do so. [applause and shouts]

So what's left then? What's Reagan's solution? Strengthening the Panama Canal militarily, occupying Honduras militarily, sending military aid and advisers to El Salvador, pressuring the Costa Rican Government, and also occupying roads, airports, and areas in Costa Rican territory. Four countries are currently being subjected to U.S. intervention: Panama, Costa Rica, Honduras, and El Salvador. The United States has intervened in these countries militarily. Why? To attack Nicaragua, which will not sell out or surrender. [crowd chants slogans]

Therefore, there's only one thing we can do: repel the attacks. [shouts] However, you should know that plans to subjugate Nicaragua are not only based on military maneuvers and a few airports in Honduras or military roads in Costa Rica. No. It is an evil plan. Why do we say that? What have they accomplished?

First of all, they have mounted a powerful, aggressive platform around Nicaragua with U.S. forces. They have also rearmed Somozist guards and hundreds, perhaps several thousands of disaffected individuals whose interests have been hurt by the revolution's policy in favor of the people. These bands are part of U.S. armed intervention. Their objective is to intervene in Nicaragua militarily, and these bands are the bridgehead and beachhead for this intervention, and they have achieved little [word indistinct].

However, the world has repudiated the U.S. aggression, the military maneuvers, and has sided with Nicaragua. The socialist bloc, the Western countries, Latin America, all nations -- with a few exceptions, such as Israel, for example, which helps the counter-revolutionary groups -- are in favor of Nicaragua and against U.S. policy. This includes the U.S. allies, who oppose the Reagan administration's policy.

The Nicaraguan people understand that what the CIA and Reagan want is to cut off and demoralize the Nicaraguan people. What they want is that when a worker arrives home and sees a child who needs medicine, he will blame the government and not imperialism; he will blame the National Directorate and not Ronald Reagan, who sits at his desk every day to approve aggressive plans against a small country. The Nicaraguan people should understand that the shortages we now face are also a basic result of the war waged by imperialism. We have lost so many products with the blockade of ports, with the many workers who have had to engage in defense duties. We have lost thousands, millions, of dollars that could have been used to perfectly satisfy many of our people's needs.

Imperialism knows that an economic victory of the revolution would be their greatest defeat, and we are already on the road to achieving this. Imperialism knows that when this revolution -- without the Yankees -- arrives at justice and for the first time gives the people what they have always been promised and the people see progress, on that day imperialism will tremble, and its policy toward Third World countries will be completely destablilized.

So we see that CIA plans also include using groups to attack our country's economy, so that we feel the shortages, so that the people will turn against the government.

Now let's see, what would happen here if tomorrow Reagan decides to intervene in Nicaragua militarily? What would happen? Dozens or perhaps hundreds of thousands of Marines will come here. We are not going to think about who will die or who will stay alive. What we would like to know is what will become of more than 700,000 Nicaraguans -- without counting the youths -- who belong to the EPS [Sandinist Peoples Army], CST [Sandinist Central Organization of Workers], ATC [Farm Workers Association], or the FSLN? What will become of more than 700,000 activists, especially when more than 200,000 of them are armed? Will it be possible for a government to resist 200,000 guerrillas spread all over the country, when there is practically no government in El Salvador, with far fewer guerrillas and fewer weapons? There can't be a government or solution with military intervention. Therefore, for this same reason, they are going to try to reverse the position of these 700,000 Nicaraguans and separate them from the leadership that maintains our national sovereignty. This is where the counterrevolutionary priests and the rightists come in, because, look at this: [applause] look at this: Will the counterrevolutionary groups be able to occupy territory near the border or accomplish anything with their incursions? [crowd shouts no] Then, what would they gain with an intervention? What's needed? Groups hurting our economy, and another ideological approach that will go to the heads of Nicaraguans, where the bullets of the counterrevolution cannot reach.

We are concerned and bewildered by this, because we don't know if, due to naivete or a well-calculated plan, the bishops of the Episcopal Conference want to serve us imperialist attacks on silver platters.

Neither the people nor the FSLN nor the National Directorate can continue to be flexible when faced with the abuses that, based on our freedom, liberality, and flexibility, they are using to hurt our revolutionary project. We cannot confront imperialism and at the same time do nothing about the scorpions in our shirts. [applause]

Therefore, we are flexible, but we know our responsibilities. There is a moment when flexibility undermines the responsibility one has in conducting the people's interests. We are going to be inflexible and vigilant with the attitude of politicized individuals engaged in counterrevolutionary activities who are using the pulpits that belong to the truly Christian Nicaraguan people. [applause, shouts] We are going to act firmly against speculators who are also damaging and undermining the food basket of the people who fight and produce. We are going to impose very harsh sanctions on speculators and hoarders. We are going to distribute staples through reliable sources, so that the people can receive the goods they produce. [applause]

Today, 1 May, we must all be united to defend our achievements. United with the revolution for defense, to raise production, to increase the levels of discipline and accomplishment, at work. Unity with technicians, administrators, with whom we have no basic conflicts. Our main conflicts are with imperialism. We must also unite with the small and medium producers, with the efficient producers, with all Nicaraguans that understand that their role is forging a Nicaragua for the future and for our children. The other Nicaraguans -- the ones that call themselves Nicaraguans, such as those in the groups who are only mercenaries paid by imperialism -- are no longer [word indistinct] Nicaraguans. They will accompany those, who, from the ranks of reactionary production groups are trying to destabilize the revolution, such as some of COSEP's [Higher Council of Private Enterprise] activists who are helping counterrevolutionary plans. We will hit the counterrevolutionary groups, Somozist mercenary bands, speculators, internal reactionary groups, and the active agents of the traitorous bourgeoisie. [applause]

Will Leon and Chinandega allow counterrevolutionary plans to prosper? Will Leon and Chinandega offer receptive ears to deceitful and counterrevolutionary messages from a mistaken hierarchy? Yes or no? [crowd replies "no" after each question] Will you allow counterrevolutionary bands to pass? [shouts] Some 200 children in western Nicaragua have given their lives defending the revolution in the past few days. Some 800 died during the insurrection. We will have to continue spilling our blood as long as imperialist attacks continue. We are sure that the people in western Nicaragua will respond in defending our national sovereignty and our fatherland, and we are also sure that they will fulfill their production duties. Long live the unity between peasants and workers! Long live the defense and production tasks! Long live the combative unity of the Nicaraguan people! Long live the FSLN! Free fatherland or death!

FRANCE'S DEBRAY, DELEGATION ARRIVE ON 8-DAY VISIT

PA021954 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] A high-level French Government delegation arrived in Nicaragua today. It is led by Regis Debray, an adviser to President Francois Mitterrand. The distinguished delegation also includes Bernard Dorin, director of American affairs of the French External Relations Ministry, and Pierre Vendorn, a member of French Prime Minister Pierre Maurroy's staff.

The important delegation will stay in Nicaragua for 8 days, during which time it will meet with members of the FSLN National Directorate and the revolutionary government.

The members of the delegation briefly explained that their visit to Nicaragua is due to the need to learn more about our country's situation. The delegation was welcomed at Sandino Airport by Nicaraguan Deputy Foreign Minister Nora Astorga and Foreign Ministry officials.

COMMANDER BALTODANO TO ATTEND LISBON CONFERENCE

PA030009 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Lisbon -- Delegations and personalities from more than 70 countries will participate in the International Conference on Nicaragua and Peace in Central America that begins in Lisbon tomorrow. The important meeting will open with a public event in the Maria Matos Theater in Lisbon. Speakers will include Argentine Adolfo Perez Esquivel, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, who will preside over the meeting; (Enrique de Barros), a member of the Portuguese State Council and former president of the Constituent Assembly; and Nicaraguan Guerrilla Commander Monica Baltodano.

Four main topics to be discussed by the working commissions make up the agenda for the conference. They include economic aggressions against Nicaragua, military aggression, peace initiatives in the region, and possible actions in defense of the changes achieved by the Nicaraguan people.

GATT CALL FOR NEW U.S. SUGAR QUOTA REPORTED

PA010443 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 27 Apr 84 p 5

[Text] A spokesman for the 90-country Intergovernmental Council of GATT has said that the United States violated the GATT Charter when it drastically reduced Nicaragua's sugar quota last year.

Washington was called on to quickly reassign Nicaragua a quota for its sugar exports to the United States in keeping with GATT rules.

The council's decision was supported by both its developed and developing member-countries, which approved it without calling a vote.

Nicaragua has asked Washington to comply with the council's decision, because its economy is suffering in the wake of the U.S. measure. However, the U.S. representative, Warren Lavorel, told the council that a settlement on the sugar issue would have to wait for an improvement in political relations between the two countries.

MSGR VEGA DEFENDS BISHOPS' PASTORAL LETTER

PA030104 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1822 GMT 2 May 84

[Report by Filadelfo Martinez]

[Text] Managua, 2 May (ACAN-EFE) -- Msgr Pablo Antonio Vega, president of the Nicaraguan Bishops Conference, today said that the accusation made by the Sandinist government that the bishops' pastoral letter "followed CIA guidelines" is a "smokescreen."

The church leader told foreign newsmen that the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency "is not manipulating the church" in Nicaragua.

Nicaraguan Junta Coordinator Daniel Ortega stated recently that the document issued by the bishops on Easter Sunday "was conceived, planned, and masterminded" by the U.S. intelligence agency.

The bishop said that, in addition to the fact that in countries "where the word democratic is misused," there must be an opposition that will prompt the social changes necessary to "ward off communism," it is also a fact that in communist countries "the spectre of the CIA is everywhere."

Msgr Vega added that in communist countries "the CIA is used as a smokescreen to cover up the truth."

He then said that "it is a blessing" that in Latin America "we judge by the facts," not like in the communist countries "where people are judged according to intellectual categories [categorias intelectuales] and not according to realities."

The president of the bishops' conference said that it is true that the pastoral letter was well "conceived."

He added: "I do not understand what he (Commander Ortega) means by 'planned.'

He stated that the bishops' document was based on the call to "open thy doors" made by Pope John Paul II and on the commentaries on the pope's exhortation issued by several congregations in Rome.

The pastoral letter was also founded on the reflections of the recent synod of bishops, the main topic of which was reconciliation, the church leader said.

Msgr Vega defended the Easter Sunday pastoral letter by saying that the bishops maintain that reconciliation can be achieved if man converts himself.

"By conversion, we mean the reunification of man with God, not a dependency on any earthly power that seeks absolute and total power," the churchman said.

According to Msgr Vega, the pastoral letter is intended to warn Christians not to become slaves to any system of government.

PCD LEADER DISCUSSES PASTORAL LETTER, ELECTIONS

PA030325 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Enrique Sotelo Borgen, national coordinator of the Democratic Conservative Party, PCD, has told Radio Sandino that his party supports the bishops' pastoral letter because it believes that in order to achieve peace in Nicaragua, one must negotiate with all the armed sectors as well as with the unarmed sectors.

The Conservative leader said that his party considers it important to participate in the discussion of the bill on the social communications media during the next period of sessions of the Council of State.

Sotelo Borgen said that the PCD's participation in next November's elections will be decided at his party's convention, which will be held soon.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] What is your position on the pastoral letter's contention that there should be a national dialogue to include the counter-revolutionary leaders?

[Sotelo] Well, to be consistent with the attitude of my party, in November 1981 we made a similar proposal. Therefore, we cannot change our opinion, which coincides with the bishops' pastoral letter.

[Reporter] In spite of the fact that those whose return is sought are enemies?

[Sotelo] That is a matter of interpretation, but I believe that in order to find peace in Nicaragua we must talk with all sectors: the armed, the unarmed, the civilians, and the military. This is a position assumed by the Conservative Party in November 1981, and, in order to be consistent, cannot be changed now.

[Reporter] Does this mean that your position cannot change in spite of fact that the incursions have increased in the last few years, since 1981, in spite of the fact that the situation has changed?

[Sotelo] Precisely, in order to change the situation and achieve peace we believe it is necessary to hold a very broad dialogue with all sectors. In 1981, when the situation was less grave, it was important to do so. Now that the situation is more serious, it is much more important to do so.

[Reporter] If the situation is serious, could it affect the elections?

[Sotelo] Well, this depends on many factors, on the government. I believe, and many of use agree that in part it is up to the government headed by the FSLN to provide a broad climate, for example, to give the Nicaraguan people confidence that the electoral process will be broad.

[Reporter] In what way?

[Sotelo] Well, be relieving the people of fear, the fear that has been instilled by mass organizations that have acted violently against various sectors of the political party organizations. We find that many of our own party members are afraid to participate in the election process. We alone cannot allay their fears. The government must help with a positive attitude to instill broad confidence in the people that the process will be correct and just and that there will be ample freedom in every respect.

[Reporter] If the conditions are not right for holding elections, what would your party's political alternative be?

[Sotelo] We hope that the conditions will be right for the elections. As for alternatives, we would have to determine them according to the situation in the country at that time. We expect those conditions to exist. They are necessary for the peace of the country and the future of this nation. [end recording]

FDN LEADER REPORTS SEIZURE OF SANDINIST ARSENAL

PA010241 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] According to Dr Indalecio Rodriguez, member of the FDN [Nicaraguan Democratic Force] Directorate, insurgent commandos in the north-central Department of Jinotega seized (?a large) arsenal of the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] on 23 April. The materiel seized from the EPS includes 40 Soviet AK-47 rifles, an M-60 machinegun, Soviet RPK and RPD machineguns, an RPG-7 rocket launcher, 3 radios, 120,000 cartridges of various calibers, two 82-mm mortars, 500 grenades, 28 knapsacks, 4 cases of hand grenades, and 3 Super AK-47 rifles.

According to the anti-Sandinist leader, at 0630 on 23 April several task forces staged a joint operation and attacked the Sandinist military fortress located near (Valle de la Rica), about 180 km northeast of Managua. After 4 hours of violent fighting, the main centers of Sandinist resistance were seized, Dr Rodriguez indicated. The FDN leader said that the Sandinist military garrison was guarded by Battalion 36-45, reinforced by a [word indistinct] battalion.

He also recalled the rebel attacks on the Sandinist bases in Waslala and (Chaosca), in Matagalpa Department, where the insurgent forces' coordination and synchronization played a very important role. Rodriguez, who is also a member of the FDN civic-military leadership, added that fighting has continued in the central Department of Matagalpa, where the anti-Sandinist rebels control a large part of the rural areas. On 23 and 26 April, FDN guerrilla columns attacked the Sandinist troops at (Yoapsa), (Ocotezuma), Santa Rosa, and Matiguas, killing 67 soldiers, according to the information released.

According to the FDN leader, the FDN intelligence chiefs claim that about 80 members of the obligatory military service [Patriotic Military Service] have been placed under military custody for refusing to fight in San Juan del Rio Coco, in Madriz Department.

Finally, Dr Rodriguez announced that fighting has been under way since 27 April in Jinotega Department, in the areas of (San Miguel del Cano de la Cruz), Piedra Colorada, (Hojas de Ahuatuas), and San Juan, where the rebels have inflicted many casualties on the government troops. Our commandos control the entire area, the FDN leader indicated.

BRIEFS

PCDN LEADER DIES -- Alejo Mendieta Silva, deputy secretary for national coordination of the Democratic Conservative Party of Nicaragua [PCDN] National Directorate, has died unexpectedly following eye surgery in San Jose, Costa Rica. [Summary] [Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 25 Apr 84 p 10 PA]

NEW POLITICAL ORGANIZATION -- The National Council of Political Parties [CNPP] has authorized the operation of a new political organization called Democratic Action [Accion Democratica]. The request to form the new party was filed by Jose Manuel Elvir, described as a social democratic politician. The new political party has until 26 May to present its documents to the CNPP. [Summary] [Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 May 84 PA]

CASTRO ATTENDS FOREIGN DELEGATION RECEPTION

FL021554 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1300 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of Cuba's Communist Party Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, attended a reception for the foreign delegations invited to Cuba for the International Workers Day activities. Guillermo Garcia and Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, both Politburo members and vice presidents of the Councils of State and Ministers, as well as full and alternate members of the Politburo and members of the Secretariat and the Central Committee attended the reception.

Cuba's president spoke for a long time with Alex Dimitrov, head of the Bulgarian Fidel Castro Construction Brigade, and with the other delegation members.

RAFAEL RODRIGUEZ RECEIVES CSSR'S LADISLAV GERLE

FL021900 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, Politburo member and vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has received Ladislav Gerle, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and vice president of the Council of Ministers of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic. Gerle is visiting our country on the occasion of the eighth [as heard] session of the intergovernmental Cuban-Czechoslovak Commission for Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation.

During the meeting -- at which Pedro Miret, Politburo member and vice president of the Council of Ministers, was present -- various subjects of mutual interest were discussed in a fraternal atmosphere; these subjects were related to economic and political relations between the two countries, further development of economic, scientific, and technical cooperation, and the possibility of future development.

FRENCH DIPLOMATS SAY DEBRAY STOPS OVER IN HAVANA

PA021645 Paris AFP in Spanish 1621 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Havana, 2 May (AFP) -- Regis Debray, adviser to French President Francois Mitterrand, made a 12-hour visit to Havana today before leaving for Managua, according to what diplomatic sources have told AFP. Debray's visit to the Cuban capital, which was not announced in France or Cuba, is surrounded with much secrecy.

This visit is part of a fact-finding mission on Central America, Frence diplomatic sources said, without elaborating.

It is not known with whom Debray met with during his stopover in Cuba. Debray arrived in Havana yesterday, Tuesday, and left the Cuban capital this morning for Managua.

UNION MEETING TO SUPPORT C.A., CARIBBEAN PEOPLES

FL021354 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Labor union representatives will meet this afternoon in a show of solidarity with the peoples of Central America and the Caribbean. The meeting will be held at the (Ernest Stelman) Salon at the CTC's [Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions] offices as one of the activities celebrating International Workers Day.

The meeting has been organized by the CTC. All the foreign labor union delegations invited to Cuba for May Day activities will be participating. The meeting is being held to support the just cause of solidarity with the region's peoples and workers, who condemn the U.S. imperialist intervention in Central America. The workers want a peaceful solution to the Central American conflict.

EX-VENEZUELAN HEAD: U.S. OBSTACLE TO CONTADORA

FL021320 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] In Washington, former Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez identified the Reagan administration's Central American policy as the principal obstacle to the Contadora Group's peace efforts. The former Venezuelan president said that, while U.S. leaders proclaim their support of the Contadora Group's efforts, events belie this support and show that the United States favors the escalation of hostilities.

COSTA RICA SAID TO BRING PRESSURE ON CONTADORA

PA020334 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 May 84

[By Rafael Ugalde, PRENSA LATINA correspondent in Costa Rica]

[Text] Costa Rica has exerted great pressure on the Contadora Group and has threatened to withhold its support if the Nicaraguan peace initiatives for the area prevail in the Group.

Costa Rica openly attacked Nicaragua and, for the first time since 1983, set a choice before the Contadora Group -- either the Sandinist people's process or the regional peace efforts.

Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge has repeated that to support Nicaragua's proposals for Central America would mean his country would withdraw its solidarity with Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia, and Panama.

A document drafted by the foreign ministries of El Salvador, Costa Rica, and Honduras gave Costa Rica a diplomatic opportunity to present to Contadora its biggest challenge to date. El Salvador, Costa Rica, and Honduras have virtually demanded that Nicaragua disarm itself and submit a report on military assistance, as well as disclose the strategic deployment of its defense network.

No mention was made throughout the foreign ministries document of either the mining of Nicaraguan ports or of the U.S. plans to invade Central America. Neither did these countries announce any measures in the event of an open foreign aggression against Nicaragua.

El Salvador, Honduras, and Costa Rica committed themselves to submitting this report without any second thoughts and argued that this helps peace in Central America.

Costa Rican Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez has confirmed that Nicaragua maintains its stance of defending its revolution from the United States and that it is not making preparations against any Central American nation.

Gutierrez said that Nicaragua will not accept any military limitation and that Costa Rica will not alter its stance during the meeting of the Central American and Contadora countries to be held in Panama on 30 April. Costa Rica increased its pressure on Contadora by asking Nicaragua to adopt a political regime in accordance with Western standards Monge told this to Radio Monumental -- after stressing a few days ago his support for the free determination of peoples.

Nicaragua Rejects Document

PA030304 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 1 May 84

[Text] Nicaragua has rejected the joint declaration issued by El Salvador, Honduras, and Costa Rica charging that its views contradict the work carried out by these countries' representatives within the Contadora Group.

Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto stressed in Panama City that the public proposal made by El Salvador, Honduras, and Costa Rica is a desperate, last-minute action, and he described the document as inappropriate.

D'Escoto explained that the views expounded in that proposal are illogical and seek to hinder the progress of the Contadora Group's negotiations. He added that Nicaragua is being attacked by the United States, which is using El Salvador, Honduras, and Costa Rica, the very countries that signed the document in question. Nicaragua feels that the proposal mentions all of the topics currently under discussion by the Contadora Group's political, security, and socioeconomic commissions. Therefore, D'Escoto has charged, the document seeks to create confusion.

According to D'Escoto, bringing to the public eye topics that are currently being negotiated by the Contadora commissions is a very dangerous practice which, if maintained, could sabotage the group's efforts.

Mexico's Sepulveda on Meeting

FL021240 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] When he returned to Mexico City after participating in the Contadora Group meeting in Panama, Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda pointed out the failure of the militaristic factions that tried to organize a boycott of the Contadora Group's peace efforts. Mexico, Venezuela, Panama, and Colombia are the four Contadora Group nations.

Sepulveda said that the Contadora Group has been strengthened by the fact that the Central American nations expressed their political decision that the Contadora Group continue to be the main negotiating body for peace in Central America.

MEXICAN SECRETARY ON PORT MINING, CONTADORA

PA020015 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 May 84

[Text] Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda has condemned the mining of Nicaraguan ports and the naval exercises in waters near the areas of conflict in Central America. He exhorted the countries involved in the problem to return to good sense and reason and make an earnest effort to achieve a certain degree of peace that the region lacks at present.

Sepulveda said that military developments in the region lately are the cause of serious concern for the Governments of Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, and Panama, which are the members of the Contadora Group.

The Mexican foreign secretary indicated that the mining of Nicaraguan ports goes against the proscription of the use of force and harms freedom of commerce and navigation. He stressed that the intensification of counterrevolutionary activities and reconnaissance flights aggravate the situation in the area and violate the airspace of the countries involved.

Sepulveda added that the declaration recently issued by El Salvador, Honduras, and Costa Rica on the area's problems seems untimely to him and described as irresponsible the attempt to introduce in the working committees' discussions matters not being considered by these committees.

Sepulveda is currently in Panama City participating in the Contadora Group foreign ministers meeting with his counterparts from Central America to consider a peace proposal for the region.

U.S. MEDIA LINK COSTA RICAN OFFICIALS, REBELS

PA020040 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 30 Apr 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Excerpt] The Costa Rican Government, headed by President Luis Alberto Monge, has reacted angrily to reports in the U.S. press charging links between Costa Rican public officials and counterrevolutionary groups attacking Nicaragua from Costa Rica.

Recently, THE NEW YORK TIMES and the ABC television network carried extensive reports in which a plane pilot and unidentified Costa Rican sources said that the CIA has extended funds to bribe certain Costa Rican officials not to hinder mercenary operations against Nicaragua. According to these sources, the CIA has given and is continuing to give hundreds of thousands of dollars to the self-styled counterrevolutionary group ARDE [Democratic Revolutionary Alliance]. Part of this money is going to Costa Rican public officials and military chiefs, who intentionally overlook anti-Sandinist operations originating in Costa Rican territory.

This is actually nothing new. In any case, these reports reinforce statements of political observers that the neutrality proclaimed by Costa Rica is being undermined by the activities of influential sectors in that country -- sectors that are opposed to the process of social, political, and economic development being conducted by the Sandinist government.

The fact that the Costa Rican Government has proclaimed its neutrality in the Central American conflict does not mean that it has eradicated the reactionary tendency of certain influential groups in that country. A decree cannot change the political stand of a social sector.

The cave-dwelling reactionary groups who oppose social development and progress are much alike in all countries where they operate. They are even known to resort to fascist actions to defend their economic interests and to crush the people's longing for freedom. Hence, the persistent flow of reports increasingly linking Costa Rican officials to counterrevolutionary groups attacking Nicaragua has not come as a surprise to Latin American public opinion.

CLASHES, ELECTORAL ALLIANCE IN EL SALVADOR NOTED

PA022023 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 1 May 84

[Text] The Salvadoran Army has moved over 1,000 troops to the centrally located Cabanas Department, where clashes have taken place in the last few hours between government forces and the guerrillas. The rebels ambushed many of the Army's columns in Tejutepeque, while other guerrilla detachments attacked the regime's forces in the city of Ilobasco, 54 km from San Salvador.

According to various press reports, the training of a special battalion in anti-guerrilla tactics will be finished in El Salvador on 7 May. The battalion is to be named after Ronald Reagan. Other reports indicate that some 60 Salvadoran troops will leave for a training center in Georgia to become specialists in security matters.

Meanwhile, the right-wing Nationalist Republican Alliance has announced in San Salvador that it has formed a coalition with the Salvadoran Authentic Institutional Party for the runoff election on Sunday. Their presidential candidate is Roberto D'Aubuisson, who has been charged with responsibility for organizing several paramilitary groups and instigating a great number of massacres and murders.

APRIL SALVADORAN ARMY CASUALTY FIGURES GIVEN

FL021512 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] The FMLN inflicted 355 casualties on the Salvadoran Army during the month of April. This is equivalent to an entire battalion.

Rebel sources have reported that in the last few days the guerrillas wounded 14 soldiers on the outskirts of the town of Ilobasco and inflicted numerous casualties on a military force stationed near Ilobasco.

Insurgent commando groups blew up electric towers located near the city of San Salvador, causing a general blackout.

GUATEMALAN URNG REPRESENTATIVE ON ELECTIONS

PA020414 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 May 84

[Interview with Andrea Ramirez, Cuban representative of the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity, URNG, by Pedro Martinez Pirez; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Martinez] Andrea, we have invited you to this interview to discuss elections in Guatemala. Oscar Mejia Victores' regime has set 1 July for this electoral process during which a constituent assembly will be elected. I would like to know what, in your opinion, is behind these elections.

[Ramirez] Behind this process, which is clearly a political move by the current elections there is really a counterinsurgency plan closely associated with U.S. plans for the region. In the framework of the coming elections in the United States, this move responds directly to U.S. interests. We believe that these elections also respond to other domestic objectives, not only to counterinsurgency, as I have mentioned before, but also to pressures by traditional rightist political forces -- extreme right, that is -- and some centrist forces.

But basically we believe that the government and the Army are not attempting a return to constitutionality, as they have announced. This is really a move to strengthen the Army even more as a backbone of the state. They are trying to carry militarization even further and to legalize the Army's dominant role in Guatemala. This is really what they are trying to achieve through this electoral process.

Hence, Pedro, there are absolutely no plans that meet at least some of the people's interests, whether they are on a short- or long-term basis; that is, the people are being entirely ignored.

But they will surely try to use the people to present this facade of democracy, to feign a process that the people have attended and participated in. We call this process forced elections, without people, because Guatemalans will not participate in this electoral process either consciously or voluntarily. In Guatemala, not one of the traditional forces that will participate in the elections represents the people's interests, as I said before, because our people have experienced successive electoral frauds in the country. Official figures have indicated that during the latest electoral processes absenteeism has been greater and greater.

A political alternative has been presented to the Guatemalan people. The alternative is the revolutionary struggle headed by the URNG.

[Martinez] Andrea, it has been said that this constituent assembly will draft a constitution for Guatemala. Do you think that this constitution would be in the style of the one approved by General Augusto Pinochet in Chile?

[Ramirez] We might say, applying the simile of the coyote over the same hill [as heard], that the constitution would basically include those aspects. But what does this mean in the particular case of Guatemala? It is simply a juridical instrument that will not be respected at all, not even within the framework of bourgeois legality. This has traditionally occurred in Guatemala. They, the government representatives, have broken their own rules of the game. This means that the constitution that might be approved by the constituent assembly -- if and when it is approved -- will neither play a decisive role in the country nor be the center of any type of change or political transformation, nor will it affect the role that the Guatemalan Army plays in our country's politics.

4TH YEAR OF NO MAY DAY CEREMONY IN GUATEMALA

FL022016 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] For the fourth consecutive year International Workers Day has not been celebrated in Guatemala because of the repression reigning in that country. But, labor unions and political organizations did issue communiques condemning the reign of terror in which Guatemalans live. During the last May Day celebration held in 1980, the regime unleashed a bloody repression which took some 30 lives. A communique sent from Mexico states: We are confronting a sustained wave of terror and repression aimed at destroying the labor movement.

HONDURAN UNION LEADERS ARRESTED BY POLICE

PA020456 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] Napoleon Acevedo, secretary general of the United Federation of Honduran Workers, FUTH, was arrested in Tegucigalpa by the police upon his return from Managua, where he attended an international union meeting in defense of peace. (Leonor Mesa), FUTH women's affairs secretary, was arrested along with Acevedo, and the two are being held in a cell at the Department of National Investigation.

The unions affiliated with the FUTH have declared themselves on alert and have demanded that the Honduran regime immediately release the two leaders.

HONDURAN WORKERS MARCH, PROTEST AGAINST SUAZO

FL021440 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] One hundred thousand Honduran workers marched through the center of Tegucigalpa yesterday in protest of President Suazo Cordova's government, the U.S. occupation of Honduran territory, and the violation of human rights. Eyewitnesses described the event as unprecedented. The march ended at Tegucigalpa's central park, where workers congregated carrying signs which read: "Gringos are trash, get out of Honduras" and "Alive they were taken, alive they were burnt," alluding to members of the opposition who are missing.

COURT SESSIONS ON NICARAGUAN CHARGES NOTED

PA020422 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 1 May 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Excerpts] Last week the International Court of Justice at The Hague held two public sessions to examine Nicaragua's complaint on the mining of Nicaraguan ports and the violation of that country's sovereignty by the United States.

The trial against the United States began last Wednesday with the presentation by Carlos Arguello, the Nicaraguan delegate and ambassador to the Netherlands, who accused Washington of committing brutal and savage acts againast the Sandinist people's revolution and requested the imposition of provisional measures to protect Nicaragua's sovereignty. Arguello cited official documents to prove that Washington is using force against Nicaragua and referred to President Ronald Reagan's statements to Congress on U.S. Central Intelligence Agency activities against Nicaragua. The charges included training, arming, and financing mercenaries to operate against Nicaragua; carrying out attacks against Nicaragua; mining Nicaraguan ports; and carrying out armed attacks by air, sea, and land.

In last Friday's session U.S. representative Davis Robinson confined his defense to matters of legal form and evaded Nicaragua's accusations of constant U.S. aggression against Nicaragua. The plea of the U.S. delegate was based on Washington's refusal to recognize the court's jurisdiction and the presumably regional, not bilateral, nature of the conflict. The U.S. representative went so far as to urge the International Court at The Hague to throw out Nicaragua's case. The U.S. representative's request prompted a severe reaction from the court's president, who replied that the Court was not accustomed to receiving orders from countries on how to proceed.

D'ESCOTO BLAMES U.S. FOR ATTACKS ON NICARAGUA

FL021846 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Nicaragua has protested to the United States about two attacks by pirate launches operating from a CIA mother ship. Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto signed the protest note sent to Secretary of State George Shultz, in which D'Escoto stated that during the early hours of the morning of 30 April, a Piranha-type launch attacked the military post of Puerto Potosi, in the Gulf of Fonseca, with machinegun and mortar fire. In the attack, which was repelled by border guard troops, no one was injured and there was no property damage. The note added that on the same day, a similar boat approached Corinto, presumably with the intention of continuing the mining of the port, but it was forced to withdraw by units of the Sandinist Navy.

FSLN LEADER: CONTRA ACTIVITIES PART OF U.S. PLAN

FL021356 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Commander Jaime Wheelock Roman, member of the FSLN National Directorate, has said that the counterrevolutionary bands attacking Nicaragua from Honduras and Costa Rica are the spearhead of a U.S. intervention. He made this statement at the main Nicaraguan ceremony celebrating May Day, held in the Nicaraguan City of Chinandega. The member of the FSLN National Directorate described as diabolical the plan that Washington is carrying out, which combines military maneuvers with internal activities to destabilize Nicaragua.

Wheelock said the U.S. Government's only option in attempting to crush the Sandinist process is that of military intervention, because it knows that there will be no internal betrayal. The Sandinist leader explained that direct U.S. military intervention has not begun because, with very few exceptions -- such as that of Israel, which supplies arms to the counterrevolutionaries -- the world rejects military adventurism and an attack on Nicaragua.

SANDINISTS DETAIN RADIO, NEWSPAPER CORRESPONDENT

PA020010 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 May 84

[Text] Nicaraguan reporter Luis Mora Sanehez, correspondent for the Costa Rican radio station Radio Impacto, has been detained by the Sandinist authorities on charges of repeatedly violating the emergency law. According to a Nicaraguan Interior Ministry note, Mora Sanchez, who is also a correspondent for the conservative newspaper LA PRENSA, disseminated antinational information harmful to the country's defense.

CONFERENCE ON NICARAGUA TO BEGIN IN LISBON

PA020417 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] Some 300 delegations and personalities from all over the world have confirmed that they will attend the International Conference on Nicaragua and for Peace in Central America to begin in Lisbon, Portugal, on Thursday under the chairmanship of Adolfo Perez Esquivel, Argentine Nobel Prize winner. Also attending the meeting will be Romesh Chandra, chairman of the WPC; Guillermo Toriello, former Guatemalan foreign minister; Nguyen Thi Binh, Vietnamese education minister; (Nikki Theodorasis), Greek composer; and Hortensia Bussi, the widow of President Salvador Allende. In a statement to the press, (Silas Serqueira), secretary general of the international committee preparing the conference, spoke of the serious situation in Central America and denounced the negative U.S. attitude toward accepting peaceful solutions to the crisis of the region.

MEXICO TO PROVIDE ASYLUM FOR GUATEMALANS

FL021632 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1300 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Mexico will continue providing protection to Guatemalans seeking asylum and will guarantee their life and health, said Secretary of Government Manuel Bartlett Diaz and Secretary of National Defense General Juan Arevalo Gardoqui.

CASUALTIES IN DOMINICAN REPUBLIC PROTESTS NOTED

FL021458 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] More than 100 persons were killed, 500 injured, and 6,000 arrested in the repression of last week's protest demonstrations in the Dominican Republic. The demonstrators were protesting the price increases decreed by the government, which yielded to pressure exerted by the IMF. The Dominican press has reported that numerous clandestine grave have been dug in a cemetery located north of Santo Domingo for the burial of unidentified victims of the clashes that took place on 23-24 April.

The Dominican Human Rights Committee has reported that to date 70 bodies have been identified, but that an additional 50 are still unidentified. This committee has also reported that about 200 adults and 30 minors cannot be located and that they have either been arrested or have disappeared. The Dominican humanitarian organization added that 350 persons suffered bullet wounds, 125 were injured, and the repressive forces forced their way into 150 homes.

RESULTS OF PCG CONGRESS IN GUADELOUPE NOTED

PA030259 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 1 May 84

[Text] The eighth congress of the Communist Party of Guadeloupe [PCG] concluded in that island's capital with an appeal for peace and for struggle against imperialism, specifically that of the United States, which insists on attacking liberation movements in Latin America, the Caribbean, and other parts of the world. The PCG meeting also reviewed matters connected with the party's internal organization, ideology, propaganda, and the work of the popular masses, and confirmed several Central Committee members. Finally, PCG Secretary General Guy Daninthe was reelected.

BETANCUR DECLARES STATE OF SIEGE IN COLOMBIA

PA030255 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 1 May 84

[Text] Colombian President Belisario Betancur this morning declared a state of siege throughout the country to counteract drug trafficking. The measure was implemented shortly after the assassination in Bogota of Justice Minister Rodrigo Lara Bonilla, who had carried out important work to eradicate drug trafficking from that South American country. Lara Bonilla's car was intercepted by unidentified individuals who mortally wounded the minister. He died in a hospital in Bogota a few minutes after being taken there. One of the attackers died during the action, and another was arrested by police.

NUMEROUS BOMB ATTACKS REPORTED IN PERU

PA021924 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 1 May 84

[Text] Nine attacks involving explosives were perpetrated in the last few hours against three police stations, two banks, and other buildings in the districts of Chaclacayo and Chosica, in Lima Department.

Meanwhile, a strong explosion in the City of Chiclayo caused considerable damage to the second story of a tourist hotel.

PRD LEADER BLAMES PR, PLD FOR VIOLENCE

FL021928 Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 26 Apr 84 pp 1, 14

[By Saul Pimentel]

[Excerpt] Dominican Revolutionary Party [PRD] leaders yesterday reiterated that this week's street disturbances were organized and led by Reformist Party [PR] and Dominican Liberation Party [PLD] members to undermine constitutional order.

Dr Jose Francisco Pena Gomez gave a speech yesterday afternoon at a PRD meeting held at National House. Federal district secretaries general from various committees also attended. At the meeting, to which reporters were invited, PRD leaders from Santo Domingo's principal neighborhoods gave the names and nicknames of alleged PR and PLD members who had been distributing money, rum, and gasoline to persons provoking the disturbances.

As the meeting began, Pena Gomez said committee zone secretaries general had offered their testimony because some members of the opposition and press had doubted his statements Tuesday night.

Pena Gomez also said that although the disproportionate rise in basic foodstuff prices was the underlying cause of the demonstrations, it was also true that PR and PLD rabble-rousers had taken advantage of events planned by the five main labor unions. He added that common criminals had taken advantage of the situation and looted businesses.

PR Leader Denies Accusations

FL022012 Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 26 Apr 84 pp 1, 2

[By Mirtilio Feliz Pena]

[Excerpt] Former President Joaquin Balaguer last night "categorically" denied the accusation made by President Salvador Jorge Blanco that a sector of the Reformist Party [PR] was responsible for the tragic events during the protests against increases in basic food prices.

Balaguer, leader of the Reformist Party, issued a written statement late last night pointing out that it would be advisable to take to the courts the leaders of the Reformist sector who, according to the president, have been favoring "vandalistic" acts, and to take the "corresponding evidence" to court, too.

The Reformist leader said that "it is regrettable" that at a time like this, when the country "is shaken from one extreme to the other by tragic events, the responsibility for which falls principally on the authorities themselves and on those who have directed the economy of the country in recent years, the voice that is being raised in the National Palace is not calling for national harmony, but for the further division of the Dominican family, whether it be with unwarranted accusations or gestures of arrogance and prepotence, incompatible with the seriousness of the present moment."

"I differ with the opinion of the president, who says the tragic events of recent days were politically inspired.

DOMINICA

CHARLES SAYS CONTINUED U.S. AID NEEDED

FL021908 Bridgetown CANA in English 1815 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, May 2 (CANA) -- Dominica's prime minister, Eugenia Charles, has told the United States that the islands of the Caribbean will still face security problems despite the foriegn aid they are receiving. Speaking during the handling over ceremony of a 20-metre long coast guard vessel, Melville, here today, Miss Charles, who is also minister responsible for security, said that the islands would like to be able to continue to call upon "our benefactors" as was the case in Grenada.

"I want to make it clear to our benefactors,...that we do not think we have the capacity to run entirely the security that we share, and we wish to always be able to have the right and privilege of calling on them for further assistance when it is necessary to have this assistance, such as in Grenada" she said. Last October, the United States sent troops to Grenada to restore peace after Prime Minister Maurice Bishop was ousted by the army.

"We are glad to know that we have friends in the world who are prepared to come to our assistance when it is necessary to ensure that we the people of Dominica as well as the Eastern Caribbean are able to sleep safely..." Miss Charles said.

The Melville is one of three vessels to be provided by the United States to governments of the seven-nation Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS). Yesterday the Liberia was presented to Antigua and Barbuda, and tomorrow the Defender will be handed over to the St Lucia Government. The three vessels, provided through bilateral arrangements with the U.S., are to be used in a security scheme involving some Caribbean countries. They will help national police forces better provide fisheries protection, search and rescue services, and drug enforcement, as well as participate in overall regional security. Each of the vessls and training for six nationals each from the three islands cost approximately 1.4 million U.S. dollars.

Miss Charles said that here administration had no intention of forming a navy, but "we are merely giving our policemen the capacity to look after Dominica..." She added: "I want to dispel any idea that there is going to be a certain section of policemen or naval officers...There are going to be policemen first and foremost."

"I know there will be screams and cries from the opposition about militarisation, but those persons who did not have to live with several weeks that a plan was being made to take over Dominica...Do not understand the reason why it is we must look for the means to repel such persons from our shores," she said in a reference to a 1981 attempt by U.S. -based mercenaries to take over the island by force of arms.

Commander R. Dunn of the U.S. Coast Guard said that the presentation to the islands "show the U.S. desire to continue its friendship with our friends in the Eastern Caribbean."

TWO CONTROVERSIAL BANANA INDUSTRY BILLS PASSED

FL012100 Bridgetown CANA in English 1701 GMT 1 May 84

[By Peter Richards]

[Excerpts] Roseau, Dominica, May 1 (CANA) -- The Dominica Parliament today passed two controversial bills aimed at restructuring the vital banana industry after Prime Minister Eugenia Charles assured farmers of their continued influence in its affairs.

Charles, who is also finance minister, however urged farmers to resist political interference in the industry, mainstay of the island's economy. "There is no room for politics in bananas," she said, "so it is important therefore that the farmers understand their business."

Passage of the bills paves the way for establishment of a new growers association and a Dominica banana marketing corporation with responsibility for marketing the crop. Growers and opposition parties had criticised the new measures.

Passage of the legislation was a precondition to government obtaining a 4.7 million dollar (one EC dollar; 37 cents U.S.) two-year grant from the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID).

Agriculture Minister Heskeith Alexander, in tabling the new banana growers association and the banana marketing corporation acts, said that when government took office in 1980 it found the industry, which accounts for 70 per cent of Dominica's total foreign exchange earnings, "in an advanced stage of bankruptcy."

Alexander said that at the end of last year the industry had received well over 16 million dollars in assistance, an apparent reference to farmers' calls on government to double efforts to obtain assistance for the industry and reject the USAID grant.

Government's agreement to the U.S. assistance has been constantly criticised by opposition political groups and the farmers union who claim that foreigners would subsequently control the industry.

The bills were tabled in Parliament earlier this year. Alexander said: "It is a climax to discussions which began with the farmers in 1982." At two separate special meetings of farmers, both pieces of legislation were rejected. The government said this stance was due mainly to political interfence. Both bills were passed with a number of amendments which government parliamentarians said arose during discussions with farmers. Charles rejected opposition calls that the 21 million dollar debt of the current farmers association should become part of the national debt.

Former Finance Minister Michael Douglas said the price currently being paid to growers was not a good enough incentive to encourage them to help rebuild the industry. Farmers receive 12 cents for a pound of fruit sold on the British market. He said that the bills were not designed to give farmers more representation but merely to make them a tool of the present administration.

Charles said that "given three years of farmer involvment...I am sure you will find a corporation which will be manned by the farmers' choice." "It is important that government still have a say in the industry," she added.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHED WITH SWEDEN

FL022257 Bridgetown CANA in English 2238 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, May 2 (CANA) -- Dominica has established diplomatic relations with Sweden, the foreign affairs department announced here today. It said that the island's High Commissioner in London Arden Shillingord had been received by King Carl Gustaf, during a simple ceremony on April 27. Shillingford also held discussions with Swedish Government officials but no details of the talks were released.

JAMAICA

GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHES EXPORT TASK FORCE

FL282010 Bridgetown CANA in English 1804 GMT 28 Apr 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, April 28 (CANA) -- The Jamaica Government, seeking to rapidly increase exports for the country to earn its way out of a foreign exchange crisis, has established a 22-member task force charged with identifying potential export manufacturers and impediments in reaching the market place. The task force is being chaired by the president of the Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica (PSOJ), Sam Mahfood, and its members include officials from public and private sector agencies and institutions.

Prime Minister Edward Seaga said that the task force will work with an inter-ministerial commission on international trade, established last year, in developing a policy paper. It is to also ensure follow-up action with producers and marketing companies after the policy paper has been produced -- within 90 days. The task force has also been told that it should determine the extent to which new productive entities, factory expansion, and rehabilitation are requested to underpin the export programme, Seaga said.

AUCTION BIDDERS GET RECORD AMOUNT OF DOLLARS

FL021654 Bridgetown CANA in English 1623 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, May 2 (CANA) -- Bidders in yesterday's (central) Bank of Jamaica (BOJ) foreign exchange auction received their full allocation for the first time since the sale began in March. According to a BOJ statement, bidders received a 100 per cent allocation of the 8.5 million U.S. dollars available in yesterday's auction. The amount available was a record. Previously, the figure had not exceeded 3.1 million dollars. The 2.3 million U.S. dollars worth of bids disqualified at yesterday's auction was substantially below the amount rejected last Thursday. At that time, 7.7 million U.S. dollars worth of bids were disqualified while bids totalling only 4.8 million U.S. dollars were accepted.

Jamaica, grappling with a severe foreign exchange shortage, introduced the auction system last March under an agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF). It permits commercial banks, individuals, and companies with past due foreign exchange obligations of at least 50,000 U.S. dollars to bid to the central bank for currency in a twice-weekly auction.

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

ALADI MEMBERS TO AID BOLIVIA, PARAGUAY

PY291938 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0852 GMT 28 Apr 84

[By Eduardo Coccaro]

[Excerpt] Montevideo, 28 Apr (EFE) -- The member countries of the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI) have decided to cooperate actively with Bolivia and Paraguay to diminish the economic impact of their landlocked situation on foreign trade.

In a resolution signed last night by the foreign and commerce ministers, who participated in the second ALADI meeting, it was established that the ALADI member countries will draw up special cooperation programs with Bolivia and Paraguay. The resolution establishes that the member-countries will give technical assistance to the transportation sector, allow the use of border passes, permit traffic through their territories, and grant free areas, depots, and ports.

CHILE WILLING TO PROMOTE REGIONAL MARKET

PY281822 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0026 GMT 28 Apr 84

[Text] Montevideo, 27 Apr (EFE) -- Chilean Foreign Minister Jaime Del Valle Alliende today said here that the regional market must become an alternative capable of overcoming the negative impact of the economic crisis that is affecting Ibero-America.

Speaking at the meeting of the Latin American Economic Association's (ALADI) Council of Ministers, Del Valle said that Chile has a strong political will to help attain Ibero-American unity in order to overcome the economic crisis that started in 1981.
Del Valle admitted that "there is great pressure within our countries because producers try to protect their products on the local market." He added that "this pressure has compelled some countries to adopt measures to restrict imports."

"We hope that the agreements we are reacheing in the commercial, financial, and monetary sectors will help us attain the established target of greater integration," Del Valle said.

BOLIVIA

SILES CALLS ON WORKERS TO ACCEPT NEW MEASURES

PY021500 Paris AFP in Spanish 1412 GMT 1 May 84

[Text] La Paz, 1 May (AFP) -- Today Bolivian President Hernan Siles Zuazo called on workers to allow the implementation of the harsh measures recently adopted by the government to bring the national economic disaster under control and consolidate democratic freedom.

In the midst of a 72-hour strike, which is in its second day today, the Bolivian president delivered a message to the workers, expressing his concern over the fact that the labor sector has not understood the real range of the new economic policies.

Yesterday the government and the powerful Bolivian Labor Federation (COB) resumed talks aimed at reaching an agreement in the economic area to allow the workers to adjust their incomes to the higher cost of living.

Siles Zuazo said in his message that the COB guidelines have a great deal in common with the political program guidelines of the Democratic and Popular Unity.

The talks, now resumed after their breakdown caused the 72-hour strike, will try to solve salary, food supply, and agrarian problems, as well as review the oil contracts with two U.S. companies during committee meetings which will end this weekend.

In the meantime, the workers began celebrating Labor Day in all Bolivian cities. A large number of women participated in these events.

SURINAME

MEDIA RESUME OPERATIONS; CENSORSHIP LIFTED

PA030027 Hilversum International Service in Spanish 2330 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Three Surinames information media outlets that had been banned since December 1982 will be allowed to resume operating this week. The media are the newspaper DE WEST and the privately owned radio stations Apintie and (Rapas). The only newspaper being published in Suriname since 8 December 1982, although censored, has been DE WARE TIDJ, and only one radio station has been broadcasting in Suriname, the Stem Van de Revolutie, SRS.

According to an agreement signed by Surinamese Prime Minister Wim Udenhout and the owners of the radio stations and the newspapers, all Surinamese information media agree to make every effort to serve the nation's interests. Censorship was officially suspended in Suriname yesterday.

VENEZUELA

LUSINCHI SENDS CONDOLENCES TO BETANCUR

PA021741 Paris AFP in Spanish 1605 GMT 2 May 84

[Text] Caracas, 2 May (AFP) -- Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi has condemned the assassination of Colombian Justice Minister Rodrigo Lara Bonilla and expressed his sorrow to his Colombian colleague, Belisario Betancur.

In addition to deploring the criminal attack, Lusinchi expressed his concern that this assassination might "have a violent effect on the peace efforts undertaken by Belisario Betancur."

Lusinchi telephoned Betancur to express his sorrow and the solidarity of the Venezuelan peoples. He later recalled before newsmen a phrase his Colombian colleague used: "Peace has its price."

The Venezuelan president also said that "the peace and democratic institutionality of Colombia are very important to us, because its destiny and that of Venezuela are very similar."